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ELSIE CARLISLE WITH A DIFFERENT STYLE

THE ERA

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'Phone No., Western 184.

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Tours opened Christmas.

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All objections, and the grounds therefor, must be submitted in writing to the Clerk of the Council, County Hall, spring-gardens, S.W. 1, within 14 days of publication of this advertisement.

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WEEKLY STATEMENT.
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Amount of weekly pensions, £46 3s.
Number of pensioners, 77.
Amount of grants, loans, fares, &c., £4 10s.

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Wire, "The Era, London."
Ring up, 4546 and 4547 Regent.

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Now booking Spring and Autumn, 1921.

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March 7, June 27, on.
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Jan. 31, Feb. 21, March 7 on.
THEATRE ROYAL, INVERNESS,
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WANTED Known.

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First-class Companies, Once Nightly, for the
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WANTED, Company, for Monday, Jan. 10, to Wire,
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G.P.O., Boston, Lincs.
(after Wednesday).

WANTED, Companies
to send
a list of their immediate dates.
a list of their immediate dates.

Pantomime,

Revue,

Drama,

Concert Parties,

A Company for
Monday next,
Jan. 10.
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All coms., J. W. CORDINER.

WANTED, first-class twice-nightly Musical Production, Jan. 24, Midlands, also later dates. Full details, including lowest, shares or certainty, and date sheet with past and future bookings, HORSFIELD'S AGENCY, Offices 21 & 22, 26, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

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Jan. 24 and Feb. 7.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Pantos., Revues, Monday, Jan. 10, 17, 24. Wire, ARNOLD, Lyc.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, Companies.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER, vacant Jan. 24, March 7, 28 (?), Sept. 5 (?), 19 (?), Oct. 3 (?), 10 (?), Nov. 14 (?), 28 (?), and on.
THEATRE ROYAL, BATH, vacant, May 16, June 6, 20, July, Aug. 1, 8 (?), 15, Sept. 12 (?), 19 (?), Oct. 10 (?), Nov. 7 (?), 28 (?), Dec. 5 (?), and on.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBORO', vacant Dec. 30, Jan. 13, 27, Feb. 17, 24, March 17, April 7, 21, May 12, 26, June 2.
Good Panto. for Jan. 3, write in.
THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY, Spring and Autumn Vacancies.
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(Once nightly.)
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WANTED, COMPANIES FOR IMMEDIATE DATES.
COMPANIES FOR IMMEDIATE DATES.
Visits include "Paddy the Next Best Thing," "My Sweetheart," "Eliza Comes to Stay," "Betty," "Who's Hooper?" "Toto," "Three Wise Fools," "Milestones," "Arcadians," "Naughty Wife," "Romance," "Silver King," "The Ruined Lady," "A Temporary Gentleman," "Maid of the Mountains," "Peg o' My Heart," "Diana of Dobson's," "Roxana," "Hobson's Choice," "The Young Person in Pink," "Tiger, Tiger," "The Jeffersons," Arthur Watson's record Pantos., "Sinbad" and "Red Riding Hood," &c.
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57, Parsonage-road, Withington, Manchester. 'Phone, 193, Didsbury.
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PALACE THEATRE, GLOUCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,

Feb. 7, Feb. 7, Feb. 7.
Feb. 7, Feb. 7, Feb. 7.
Feb. 7, Feb. 7, Feb. 7.

Feb. 14, Feb. 14, Feb. 14.
Feb. 14, Feb. 14, Feb. 14.
Feb. 14, Feb. 14, Feb. 14.

March 21, March 21, March 21.
March 21, March 21, March 21.
March 21, March 21, March 21.

Good Plays or Musical Comedies.

Must be Once-nightly Attractions.

Excellent business at both places.

Full particulars first letter.

E. C. ROGERS,

Palace Theatre,

Gloucester.

WANTED,
for Immediate Dates,
STAR COMEDIANS,
MUSICAL ACTS,
AND BIG SPECIALITIES,
for
HIP., ACCRINGTON.
HIP., DARWEN.
HIP., LANCASTER.

Also for other Halls in Lancashire.

List of Bookings, terms, &c.,
HARRY GILPIN,
20, Swainson-street,
Blackpool.
'Phone, 412. Grams., "Variety."

PALACE THEATRE, BATTERSEA.
Vacant Monday Next, Jan. 10.
Vacant Monday Next, Jan. 10.
WANTED, through breach of contract,
Pantomime,
Revue,
or
First-class Drama,
Monday Next, Jan. 10.

Wire, FREDERICK BAUGH,
Tel. address, Stageyness, London.
'Phone, 1652 Battersea.

THE PIER GRAND PAVILION, COLWYN BAY.

General Manager, W. Yates Gregory.

WANTED, Jan. 17, week,

also
Easter Week,

Strong Theatrical Attraction.

Must have a good West-End reputation.

Three nights Rhyl.

Three nights Colwyn Bay.

Full particulars to above.

PAVILION, TORQUAY.
General Manager for the Corporation, Charles G. Price.
WANTED, Good Companies,
Feb. 14 and 28,
March 7,
April 11.
Write, MANAGER,

COMPANIES WANTED.

H. W. ROWLAND'S BOOKING CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Attractions,
D.P. THEATRE, EASTBOURNE,
Jan. 31, April 11, 18.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS,
May 30, June 6.
PLEASURE GARDENS, FOLKESTONE,
May 16, June 13.
PALACE THEATRE, RAMSGATE,
Feb. 28, March 7, 14.
PALACE THEATRE, MAIDSTONE,
May 9, 16, 23.
(Twice nightly.)
London Representative for W. W. Kelly and Opera House, Blackpool.

Apply, 52, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.
Regent 1651. "Topobill, Piccy, London."

THE ASSOCIATION OF TOURING MANAGERS.

BOOKING BUREAU.

This Bureau represents over 500 of the Principal Touring Companies.

WANTED,
Theatre Proprietors are requested to forward vacant dates, when list of all companies available will be sent by return.

NOTE.—No charge is made for the use of this Bureau, which is NOT an Agency, but a Central Booking Office for the benefit of Resident and Touring Managers.

Address all communications to the Secretary of the Association,

MR. LOUIS CASSON,

178, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C. 2.

For other Companies Wanted see Displayed Wanted Section.

THEATRES WANTED.

DADDALUMS.
WANTED, Theatres,
Jan. 10, 17, onwards, with exceptions.

DADDALUMS.
A. MELVILLE, Wyndham's T., W.C.

FRANK FORBES-ROBERTSON in "MICE AND MEN" and "THE PASSING OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 10 (precede Oxford), Jan. 31 (precede Rochdale), April 18,
and sundry Autumn Dates.
NELSON KING,
112, Bristol-street, Birmingham.

WANTED,
Feb. 14,
Feb. 14,
Feb. 14,
"A WEEK-END."
"A WEEK-END."
"A WEEK-END."
Only other vacancies,
April 4,
May 23,
Aug. 1, 8,
Oct. 3, 10.
W. W. ELLIS,
44, Carlton-hill,
London, N.W. 8.

"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."
"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."
"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."
WANTED,
Jan. 17 and 24.
Jan. 17 and 24.
Jan. 17 and 24.
North preferred.

April 4 (?),
Midlands.

Only vacancies till Autumn.

WILLIAM MACLAREN,
Theatre Royal, North Shields.

WANTED, First-class Theatre or Music Hall, Jan. 17, Midlands or near London, for the best Oriental Pantomime on the road.
"THE FORTY THIEVES."
"THE FORTY THIEVES."
"THE FORTY THIEVES."
Also Jan. 31, to follow Edmonton.
Once or twice nightly.
K. HEATON AAEN,
Pier Theatre, Eastbourne.

GANE & MORLEY, LTD.
Licensed by L.C.C.

"THE GIRL."

"THE GIRL."
Revusical Comedy in 3 Acts.

12 Principals, including Will Gane.

As produced with unprecedented success at N.A.C.B. Garrison Theatre, Bulford.

WANTED, Jan. 24, to follow Southsea; also Jan. 31, Feb. 14, to follow Torquay, also Feb. 21 and 28.

ONLY SPRING VACANCIES.

25, Gt. Marlborough-street, London, W. 1
Telegrams, "Morlais, Reg., London."
Telephone, Gerrard 3136.

C. A. STEPHENSON'S NO. 1 CO.
"CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14, 21.
First-class show guaranteed.
Fifth year of production.
Also wanted, March, onwards, for the great Musical Success,
"A SPANISH ROMANCE."
Also "CARMINETTA."
Autumn dates wanted.
Everything carried.
This, O.H., Jersey.
Next, Theatre, Guernsey.

THE GORGEOUS CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME.
"LITTLE JACK HORNER."
WANTED, Large Theatres, through misunderstanding,
Jan. 24 (?), 31, to follow Opera House, Traherbert, also Feb. 21, 28, to follow Long Eaton. The only vacant dates this season. They must be big theatres, with big stages. This is one of the biggest productions ever toured, and places that will hold money. This week, Hippodrome, Wednesbury, Staffs. Next week, Palace Theatre, Weston-super-Mare. Address, VAL DESMOND, Hall's Productions.

WANTED, Jan. 10 and 24 (South preferred), for
"PRETTY BABETTA."
"PRETTY BABETTA."
"PRETTY BABETTA."
"PRETTY BABETTA."
Three Scenes.
The smartest, funniest, and best-dressed Revue touring.
Company of twenty-two.
Printing ready.
Everything carried.
Refer here.
Wire,
WEST, Hippo., Eastbourne.

MONDAY NEXT.
MONDAY NEXT.
WANTED, Monday Next, for the great comedy show,
"NEXT, PLEASE!"
"NEXT, PLEASE!"
Jan. 10 and 24.
Wire, JOHNNY McELROY,
Palace, Weston-super-Mare.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. CHARLES HAWTREY'S
Famous Farcical Comedy,
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
Now playing to capacity business at the Aldwych Theatre, London.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Jan. 24.

Feb. 17 (three nights),
in conjunction with Oxford.

Feb. 28, March 14 and 21.

April 11 (three nights), April 18.

Address, CECIL BARTH,
37, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2.

MR. BRANDON-THOMAS'S COMPANY.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
Now playing to crowded houses at the Prince's Theatre, London.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Jan. 31.

Feb. 28.

April 4, 11, 18, 25.

Address, CECIL BARTH,
37, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2

"PEG O' MY HEART."
"PEG O' MY HEART."
"PEG O' MY HEART."

Unexpectedly Vacant through obliging manager.

WANTED, Jan. 31, 1921.
Jan. 31, 1921.
Jan. 31, 1921.

MACDONALD & YOUNG,
33, Lisle-street, W.C. 2.

WANTED, for the Principal Company in "THE ROTTERS,"
Good Theatres,
either once or twice nightly for Jan. 31 and Feb. 7;
also April 11 (three nights),
April 25, and May 2.
ARTHUR GIBBONS,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2.

WALTER SALTOUN and AIMEE GRATTAN-CLYNDES COMPANIES.

"SEVEN NIGHTS IN LONDON."
"SEVEN NIGHTS IN LONDON."
"SEVEN NIGHTS IN LONDON."
"SEVEN NIGHTS IN LONDON."

By Aimée Grattan-Clyndes.

"A complete triumph."—"The Era."

"Well knit together and teeming with exciting situations."—"The Stage."

"The person who wants more than this play contains is very difficult to please."—"Exeter Press."

Thanks to the following Theatres for contracts and offers:—T.R., Chatham; Em., Woolwich; T.R., Exeter; T.R., Torquay; T.R., Yarmouth; Regent, Lowestoft; T.R., King's Lynn; T.R., Bury St. Edmunds; Lyceum, Ipswich; T.R., Darlington; M., Glasgow; T.R., Edinburgh; T.R., Middlesbrough; Alex., Hull; Pal., Bordesley; Em., Edmonton; T.R., Blyth, &c.

WANTED, Feb. 21 (?), 28, March 28, April 11 (Scotland), May 16, 30, and various, on.

WALTER SALTOUN,
33, Albany-road, Windsor.

WANTED, No. 1 Theatres and Music Halls only, for the following attractions:—
"BUZZ-BUZZ."
The Successful Vaudeville Theatre Production.
March 7, 14; April 4, 11; May 16.

"THE GIRL FROM CIRO'S."
The entire Garrick Theatre production carried.
Feb. 28, March 7, 28, and April 18.

Wanted, Jan. 24, 31; Feb. 14, 21, 28; March 7, 14, and 21; and various dates on, for one of the latest West End Musical Comedy Successes.

Also dates from Feb. 14 for several good-class revues, recognised London successes.

W. FOSTER HORSFIELD, Suite 21 and 22, 26, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.
Telephone, Gerrard 7167.

"A PRODIGAL WIFE,"
and
"LITTLE MOTHER."
WANTED, Next Week.
Lodge-Percy and Henrietta Schrier in cast.
Wire, SCHRIER, 55, Grove-crescent-road, Stratford, London, E.

"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
By Walter Howard.
WANTED, Jan. 10, Durham or North, onward; February and March; either one or two plays. Splendid printing all ready. SIDNEY RENNEF, this, Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor; next, 109, Brighton-road, Gateshead.

T. C. WRAY'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Theatres.
"KISSING TIME," Feb. 21, April 4 (North).
"BLUE LAGOON," May 16 (Midlands).
"YES, UNCLE," May 2.
T. C. WRAY, 28, Floral-street, W.C.
3121 Gerrard.

Miss Violet Luddington's Co. in "THE YELLOW TICKET."
WANTED, Feb. 14, 21, and 28, to follow Opera House, Blackpool, owing to transferring of dates. All communications, EDWARD CRANSTON, 19, Sackville-street, Piccadilly, W.

R. & W. Ainsley's Productions.

"THE MOVIE MAID."

A First-class Musical Comedy, played by an all-star cast.

WANTED, Monday next, Jan. 10, to follow Manchester.

Wire, AINSLEY,
Gaiety Theatre,
Houghton-le-Spring.

"DICK WHITTINGTON."
WANTED, Jan. 24, on.

Coms.,
HARRY JOSEPH,
Theatre Royal,
Ashton-under-Lyne.

THE O'MARA OPERA CO.
WANTED, through transfer,
April 4, April 11,
Theatres with holding capacity,
North or Midlands.
MAT C. BYRNE,
Shakespeare Theatre,
Liverpool.

"THE RUINED LADY."
Rosa Lynd's Company.
Capacity nightly on Brighton Pier.
WANTED, Feb. 7 (3), April 25, May 23.
HALDANE CRICHTON, 164, Alexandra-road, N.W. 8.

THEATRES WANTED.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANIES

"THE BELLE OF NEW YORK."

WANTED, Good Theatres, April 25, May 2, Sept. 19, and Nov. 7.

"THE SILVER KING."

Vacant Jan. 17, 24, 31, March 28, and April 4.

"THE BABES IN THE WOOD."
Vacant Jan. 31.

All communications, WILLIAM MARTIN, 15, Clifford's-inn, Fleet-street, London, E.C. 4.

WANTED, Monday Next.
"LIZZIE."
"LIZZIE."
"LIZZIE."
"LIZZIE."
"LIZZIE."
"LIZZIE."
Vacant Monday Next.
First vacancy since production.
Wire,
BERT ABBOTT,
Hippodrome, Burslem.

House address,
34, Church-street, Burslem.

For other Theatres Wanted see Displayed Wanted Section.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Soprano (high), for well-known Musical Act on halls; must be good. Address, Box 260, "The Era."

WANTED, tall, experienced Character Actor, strong, deep voice; tall, good-looking Juvenile Man; tall Property Man, to play small part and look after one scene. Call for interview to-day, between 11 and 12, HORACE HUNTER, Rehearsal Rooms, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

WANTED, for the new Spiritualistic Play, "From the Land of Silence," commencing Feb. 28, 1921, Artists in all lines. Particulars, photos (with stamped envelope for return), references, &c., to LLOYD CLARENCE, Globe Theatre, Consett.

WANTED, Cinema Artists, all lines, for important British productions; photos essential. SIDNEY JAY'S AGENCY, 181, Wardour-st., W. 1. 'Phone, Regent 4329.

WANTED, to open Jan. 17, Char. Cockney Old Man (stout, short), Lady for small part, must combine A.S.M.; Carpenter, combine baggage, own tools, abstainer preferred. Photos, letters only, MULLORD, 163, Balham-hill, Balham.

WANTED, refined, experienced Ladies and Gents., all lines, for Comedy-Drama; rehearse immediately; near Cambridge. Photos., full partics., CECIL ROBERTS, 24, Grantham-street, Lincoln.

WANTED, MR. AND MRS. ERIC LANGLEY'S REP. Co., Artistes, all lines, including good comedian and chambermaid, also responsible people, and scenic artist able to play parts; six pieces weekly; all must rehearse Friday; open Saturday; 2nd year of present stock and tour. Wires only, ERIC LANGLEY, Imperial Hall, Epworth, Lincs.

WANTED, for WALFORDS' WELSH MAIDS C.P., Smart Comedienne and Dancer, young and refined. Photo., pars., to
WALFORD,
Temperance Hall,
Frome.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen desirous of good tuition for Stage and Concert Party work. A Vacancy occurs in high-class Concert Party for a lady and gent.; small premium required and small wage paid; must assist in sketches, small parts, and gent. must also assist in management. Also vacancy for Pianist. All to open at once. Wire immediately. H. COLLINS, 3, Tower-street, Boston, Lincs.

WANTED, First-class, Young Chorus Ladies
and Dancers,
for Tour of
"WHIRLIGIG."
Apply, AUSTIN HURGON,
Stage Door, Comedy Theatre,
Panton-street, Friday, 11 a.m.

WANTED, Smart Show Ladies and Chorus; must be good singers and dancers. Apply, between 12 and 3, Flat C, 54, High-street, New Oxford-street.

WANTED, smart Girl or Boy, age about 15; respectable family; trick cyclists. A. PROVEANIE, 41, Russell-road, W. Kensington, London.

CINEMA EMPLOYMENT.

WANTED, thoroughly experienced Electrical Cinematograph Operator; do wiring and own repairs. Full particulars, first instance, can open immediately, state salary required, to J. CUMMINGS, Palace Theatre, Kilmarnock.

AMATEURS, PUPILS, ETC., WANTED.

WANTED, Singers, for good songs, sentimental or comedy. (Stamp) Call, afternoons, MR. D'ALBERT, 3, Stansfield-road, Stockwell-road, S.W. 9.

WANTED, Amateurs, Aspirants, Pupils, songs to fit you. Tuition to make you perfect; 200 clients appearing; 25 years' reputation. D'ALBERT, above.

WANTED, Aspirants, Stage Dancing, Singing, Elocution, Songs, Engagements Booked; interview free. 'Phone, Museum 6580. FRANK PERRY, Agent, 201a, High Holborn.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Electrician

WANTED, for Monday next, for Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall, but will be required to look after the electrical equipment at Grand Theatre and Imperial Picture House in addition. Apply, GENERAL MANAGER, Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.

WANTED, Billposter.
Thoroughly practical and reliable hand. State age and if married to BILLPOSTING COMPANY, Coventry.

WANTED Shortly, for Bostock & Wombwell's Menagerie, responsible Advance Agent; must be experienced; one who can drive motor preferred; other useful men write. Address, E. H. BOSTOCK, 69, Dalhousie-street, Glasgow.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Baggage Man, to look after scenery and baskets. CECIL BIRD, Pier Theatre, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, to know that Leete's hold a large stock of Scenic Colours, Brushes, &c. Write for Catalogue, A. LEETE & CO., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E. 1.

WANTED Known, I. CURRIE MAY, age 30, Manager and Accountant, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth, and late of Moss' Empires, Ltd., relinquishing position end of Jan., desires Appointment, town, provinces, or coast.

WANTED, Management, Advance, Lecturing, Booking, Publicity, or other appointment; resident or tour. DAVE HYMAN, 58, Vassall-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Composers to submit Fox-trots, Waltzes, One-Steps, for Publication. KINGSWAY CO., 4, Parton-street, W.C. 1.

WANTED, engagement by Lady, London; would assist manager or assist any capacity.
Capable of taking any position of trust.
Smart appearance.
Box 225, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Dancing Instructor, young man, wishes Position as M.C., Instructor, or Private Partner; well up in all ball-room dances. Box 257, "The Era."

WANTED, Responsible Position by Lady Typist and Book-keeper; first-class experience and references; thoroughly accustomed theatrical office routine. Box 249, "The Era."

WANTED Known, RELI, Scenic Artist, disengaged; quick, steady worker; terms mod., at own London studio, or provincial work. D. B., 85, Brandon-street, London, S.E. 17.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, immediately, Musical Director. Panto.
BURTON, Hippo., Mexborough.

WANTED, M. D.-Pianist.
Must arrange.
Fairly good vocalist.
HENRY JOSEPH,
T.R.,
Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, by the Ilfracombe Urban District Council, a Violinist-Conductor for a small band in the Council's Pleasure Grounds and Pavilion for the summer season of 1921. To provide music for the band. Applications, stating age, weekly salary required, with references, to be sent not later than noon on Jan. 15, 1921, to the
CLERK TO THE COUNCIL,
Town Hall,
Ilfracombe.
Dec. 31, 1921.

WANTED, Capable Violin-Conductor, for small orchestra; evenings only. Apply, MANAGER, Electric Palace, Waltham Cross, N.

WANTED, Brilliant Pianist-Conductor; revue; open immediately. JOHNNY McELROY, Palace, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, first-class Violin-Conductor; good library; experienced varieties. Testimonials and salary to Box 264, "The Era."

WANTED, Musical Conductor, for Theatre (Pictures and Variety), North London; must be thoroughly experienced and able to orchestrate. State terms, "MUSICUS," c/o London and Provincial Advertising Agency, Ltd., 4, Oxford-street, London, W. 1.

THEATRE ROYAL, PONTYPRIDD, MON.

WANTED, to open at once, or when at liberty, first-class Violin (leader), for twice-nightly music hall; must be used to varieties. Age, terms, references, and state when at liberty, to GEORGE HENRY PITT, as above.

WANTED, Violin Rep., for Relief Orchestra, to commence Monday next. Apply, Wed., at 2.30, N. HORNICK, Mus. Dir., Queen's Hall Cinema, Cricklewood, N.W.

THE MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT.
HIPPODROME, WARRINGTON.

WANTED, to open Jan. 10, sound, solid First Violin (Rept.); must be experienced in Variety. Terms £3 15s.; permanency; A.M.U. Age and particulars to T. HULLEY, M. D.

WANTED, Experienced Violinist (Rep.) (Gent.). Call after 2.30 p.m., THE THEATRE CHARMING, West Ealing Broadway, W

FOLKESTONE.

WANTED, Monday, Jan. 17, or soon after, VIOLIN REPETITOR, for Cinema Quintette; 4½ hours daily, no Sunday; fortnight's holiday yearly. Applicants must be well taught, and have good instrument. State experience, age, and terms required, M. D., 160, Sandgate-road, Folkestone.

WANTED, Violinist (Rep.), able to lead, also Organist; audition Friday, afternoon or evening. MUS. DIR., "Queen's Hall" Cinema, Rushey Green, Catford, S.E. 6.

WANTED, experienced Repet. for continuous pictures; 6.30 to 10.30, with intervals. Apply, with refs., to J. M. HARVEY, Mus. Dir., Palace Theatre, Doncaster.

WANTED, First-class Repetiteur, who can lead, evenings only. Call after 6.30, Scala Cinema, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Good Rep. Violin, Cinema, near London. Apply, THE LONDON & PROVINCIAL MUSICAL ASSOCIATION, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.C.

WANTED, a Repetiteur, 6 evenings and 2 matinées. Apply, after 6.30, ALCAZAR CINEMA, Upper Edmonton, N.

WANTED, Leader-Violin, for Cinema; used to first-class programmes; good wages to suitable man. Apply, MANAGER, Empire, Cleethorpes.

PALACE, BURNLEY.
WANTED, Good, Reliable Leader. A.M.U. terms.
Apply, MUS. DIR.

WANTED, experienced Leader-Violinist, to open immediately, for variety hall, South Yorkshire. References and salary required to Box 255, "The Era."

WANTED, FOR PROVINCIAL THEATRE, FIRST-CLASS LEADER TO ACT AS DEPUTY CONDUCTOR WHEN REQUIRED; MUST HAVE GOOD KNOWLEDGE OF VARIETY. STATE TERMS AND REFS. TO WILL DOLMAN, M. D., PICTURE HOUSE, GRANTHAM.

WANTED, a first-class Leader and Rep.; S.E. district; evenings only, no Sundays; commence Jan. 17. Apply, MUS. DIR., 22, Hardings-lane, Penge, S.E.

PIÉNA THE HOUSE FOR CINEMA MUSIC COVERS

5 Numbers by TRANSLATEUR, which every Musical Director includes in his Library:—

SLUMBER SONG. A BALL NIGHT VISION.
SERENADE. EL CHOCLO.
HEARTS THAT ARE WEARY.

Salon orchestra, including P.C., harmonium, two first violins, and obbligato violin, 2s. complete. P.C., 8d. Harmonium, 8d. E.P., 4d.

Also THE DEATH KNELL, by ZURFLUH. F.O., including harmonium and two first violins, 1s. S.O., 10d. P.C. or H., 6d, E.P., 3d.

For full particulars of Catalogue and Subscription Scheme, 'Phone Gerrard 7236, or call—

MUSIC 55, HIGH-ST., NEW OXFORD ST., W. STRINGS

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, first-class Leader-Violinist, with library if possible, for new cinema and café. Send full partics., references, terms, &c., Picturedrome, Sleaford, Lincs.

WANTED, first-class Violinist (leader), for cinema; 4½ hours daily, no Sunday; must be skilled artist and used to Tavan and Alder's arrangements; duds come at own risk. DUDLEY HAMILTON, Director of Music, Castle Cinema, Cardiff.

WANTED, First Violinist (repetiteur); used to good twice-nightly Varieties; open Jan. 24; A.M.U. terms; £4 18s. State age, references, and experience. WILLIAM HARTLEY, M. D., King's Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED immediately, First Violin, 'Cellist, and Double Bass; Pictures and Varieties. Apply, with terms and refs., MANAGER, Palace Theatre, Salisbury.

WANTED, Musicians, at First-class Variety Halls. Newport Empire (Mon.), 1st Violin. Edinburgh Empire, Repetiteur. Cardiff Olympia (Pictures and Variety), 'Cellist.
Applicants must be experienced and thoroughly competent. Write, with full particulars, references, &c., to the
MUSICAL DIRECTOR,
at the above-mentioned hall.

WANTED, Lady Violiniste, for few weeks; open Jan. 10; cinema, South; comfortable berth. Particulars and terms to Box 235, "The Era."

WANTED, Violinist; own library. Also Orchestral pianist. Apply, M. CHEEPEN, Scala, Finsbury Park, N.

WANTED, Violinist, own library. Apply, after 3 o'clock, ALBION CINEMA, Stoke Newington.

WANTED, Health Resort, Cornish Riviera, Violinist or good Rept.; Tavan. Wire, write lowest winter terms. Reasonable digs. Once nightly, two mats. HUGO, M. D., Scala, St. Ives, Cornwall.

WANTED, Violinist, for trio. Also Relief Pianist. Apply, Box 265, "The Era."

WANTED, first-class Violinist, Variety and Pictures; twice nightly; one matinée; open as early as possible. State terms and references to GEORGE CASEY, Grand Cinema, Basingstoke.

WANTED, Violinist, open immediately. Also Reed Organist, Jan. 8. REYNOLDS, Electric, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Violinist (not for lead); must be a good player, and used to high-class programmes; high-class picture house, N.-E. district. State terms for 42 hours daily, and send copies of refs. and state earliest date can open. Box 275, "The Era."

WANTED, Solo Cornet for Pavilion, Alloa, N.B., to open Monday, Jan. 10, or at once; once nightly, 8 o'clock; twice Sat. and matinée. Terms £4; A.M.U. Apply, H. MASON, M.D., 16, Whins-road, Alloa.

WANTED, for S.E. district, Lady Bass and Lady 'Cellist; permanent to suitable artist. Apply, MUS. DIR., Box 245, "The Era."

WANTED, Double Bass, small orchestra, Cinema; evenings only; experienced only.

Terms, &c., first letter,
A. WOODWARD,
Electric Theatre,
Forge-road, Port Talbot.

WANTED, exp. Trombone, to open Monday next, Hippodrome, St. Helens; A.M.U. Terms £3 10s. State age. Apply, J. WHITELOCK, Musical Advisor, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, 'Cello, must know Tavan. Apply, PREMIER PICTURE HOUSE, 6, High-road, Leytonstone.

CON. WILLIAMS' ORCHESTRAS.
SCOTLAND.
THE DENNISTOUN PICTURE HOUSE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, to open on Jan. 17, First-class Musicians as follows:—'Cellist, Double Bass, Clarinet; experience in high-class programmes necessary; evenings only. Salaries £4 5s. weekly.
CON WILLIAMS,
The Grand Central,
Glasgow.

WANTED, first-class 'Cellist for Cinema Orchestra, Provinces. Apply, stating qualifications and salary required, Box 241, "The Era."

WANTED, a first-class 'Cello, good tone; S.E. district; evenings only, no Sundays; commence Jan. 17. Apply, MUS. DIR., 22, Hardings-lane, Penge, S.E.

WANTED, Solo 'Cello, for cinema symphony orchestra, owing to disappointment; thoroughly conversant with highest class programmes; no worry; good salary; comfortable perm.; open Monday. Refs., &c., to GUY FLETCHER, Mus. Dir., Empire Cinema, Mexborough, Yorks.

WANTED, good 'Cellist (gentleman) for Cinema, S.E. district. Apply, Elmwood, Atkins-road, Clapham Park. 'Phone, Streatham 950.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LUTON.

WANTED, thor. exp. 'Cellist; Pic. and Var.; twice nightly and one matinée; com. perm. engt. to right man; large orchestra; A.M.U. terms. Refs. to MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

WANTED, Good 'Cellist; £5 per week, 6 days; audition Thursday morning, 12 o'c. BROCKLEY PALLADIUM, Brockley, S.E. 4.

PLAYHOUSE, FELIXSTOWE.

WANTED, First-class 'Cellist (Lady or Gent.), open at once; pictures only; 2 mats., 6 evening, 22 hours; open at once; only first-class musicians used to Tavan and standard works; comfortable and permanent engt. Lowest terms and refs., MANAGER (as above),

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, 'Cellist, big tone, for cinema, N.W.; good salary. Apply, Box 269, "The Era."

WANTED, good Oboes, Double Bass, Harpist; exp. Varieties; A.M.U. State age. J. WHITELOCK, Musical Advisor, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED immediately, Organiste, Relief Pianiste, 'Celliste, Rep. Violinist, able to lead; evenings only. Audition after 6. QUEEN'S HALL, Peckham.

WANTED, Jan. 31, Piano-Organist, with library, Violinist, and 'Cellist; preference to ladies or abstainers; Pictures and occasional Varieties; 4½ hours nightly, two matinées. Refs., wages, &c., to MANAGER, Electroscope, High Wycombe.

WANTED, Relief Pianist, for Tottenham. Lowest terms and experience to Box 267, "The Era."

WANTED, Pianiste (lady).
Open immediately.
Good player and vamper; live in.
State age, salary,
photos. (returned).
BOWLING GREEN INN,
Otley, Yorks.

WANTED, at once, Orchestral Pianiste for Cinema; also D. Drummer; must be accustomed to high-class music; six days (no Sundays). Apply any day after 3 o'clock, LION, Electric Theatre, Surrey Docks, S.E.

WANTED, first-class Pianiste, used to Tavan, Alder, &c., to play with trio; 4 hours nightly, one matinée; pictures only. Apply, stating lowest, to MANAGER, Coliseum, Goole.

WANTED, Pianist, entertainer preferred; winter tour. Full pars. to GEORGE ROBINS. (See "Gay Gondoliers" Advt.)

WANTED, good Pianist, to join Violinist and Vocalist, to rehearse a programme for music hall audition. Box 234, "The Era."

WANTED, thoroughly exper. Pianist, for first-class cinema orchestra; nightly, 7.30 to 10, two matinées; open Jan. 15. State lowest terms, MANAGER, Palace, Truro.

WANTED, Pianist; must be good sight reader. Also a Relief Pianist; both for Tottenham. Age, experience, and lowest for small cinema, no Sundays, letters only, MURRAY, 32, North-villas, Camden-square, London, N.W.

WANTED, Pianist, open Jan. 17; varieties; no orchestra; quick reader; no matinées. BIJOU, Hull.

WANTED, Orchestral Pianist, Violin, and 'Cello; matinée and evenings; no Sundays. No reply given unless terms are stated. MANAGER, Electric Theatre, Headgate, Colchester.

WANTED, Orchestral Pianist, for West End Cinema. Apply, immediately, 47, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, to open shortly, a first-class Lady Harpiste, to comb. Piano, in a refined musical act. Full pars. to Box 217, "The Era."

WANTED, first-class Harpist, for cinema; 4½ hours daily, no Sunday; must be first-class artist; duds come at own risk.
DUDLEY HAMILTON,
Castle Cinema, Cardiff.

WANTED, Banjos, Banjolins, and Saxophone, for dance hall. Apply, 11 o'clock Thursday, M. D., 39, Store-street, Tottenham Court-road.

WANTED, first-class Jazz Drummer and Tympanist for cinema; must understand all effects for pictures; good salary. Write, Box 238, "The Era."

WANTED, for Fulham Grand Theatre, Drums and Tympani Player, with effects; permanent to suitable artist. MUS. DIR., Fulham Grand Theatre, S.W.

WANTED, for West London Café, Ladies' Trio, piano, violin, 'cello, for afternoons only; must have good appearance; first-class players and good, up-to-date library. State terms, Box 268, "The Era."

WANTED, for high-class cinema, Full Orchestra, including violin-conductor; 5 hours daily; A.M.U. preferred. Lowest terms and particulars, Box 273, "The Era."

WANTED, Violinist, Pianist, and Organist, to deputise one night weekly; good Trio would suit. Call Wednesday evening. HARRY CRIDLAND, Highgate Empire.

WANTED, Jazz and other Dance Bands. Send full particulars and lowest terms per man for evenings of 4 hours, London district, Box 266, "The Era."

WANTED, Musicians (ex-Service men, age under 45), to complete London Territorial Corps Band. Apply, KESSELS & CO., 41, Rathbone-place, W. 1.

WANTED, for long seaside Summer Engt. on South Coast, good and experienced Orchestral Musicians, Strings, Wood-wind, and Brass; ladies and gentlemen; two concerts daily. Good salaries to efficient players.
N.B.—No members of the Union or N.O.A. need apply.
Particulars and terms to
Box 259, "The Era."

WANTED, MUSICIANS for CINEMA. Vio-Conductor, with library; Repetiteur, Cornet, Clarinet, Drums, to open Jan. 17. Experience, refs., lowest terms,
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EASTBOURNE.

WANTED, Solo Violinists, 'Cellists, Double Basses, and Pianists, to Register for C. W. and F. N. Black's Orchestras on Liners. State age, experience, two references for personal character. Audition must be given. Terms: Musicians, £14 per month; Bandmasters, £16; uniform allowance, 25s. per month. Also Musicians for Hotel and 1st-class Cinema Orchestras. C. W. and F. N. Black, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

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First-class Solo Violin (Leader); experienced in high-class programmes absolutely necessary. Salary £5 10s. weekly.
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Pianist (Varieties and Pictures), to open Jan. 17. Orchestral experience necessary. Evenings only. Salary £4 5s. per week.

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Solo Violinist (Leader). Experience in high-class programmes absolutely necessary. Six evenings and one matinée. Salary £5 10s. per week. To open Jan. 15.

Full particulars per return to
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Glasgow.

WANTED Known, THE ALLCHURCH MUSIC LENDING LIBRARY; large bands supplied; programmes arranged if desired. 131, Bedford-hill, Balham, S.W. 12.

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MUSIC ON HIRE.
WANTED, Orchestras, Cinemas, Cafés, good music only, at lowest rate. CHAS. GEE, 31, Brewer-st., Maidstone.

WANTED Known, Music on Hire for Cinemas, &c. Apply, W. S. CUDDEFORD, 77, Kelmscott-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED Known, Music on Hire, cinema and café. R. S., 6, Cumberland-mansions, West End-lane, Hampstead.

WANTED Known, Band Parts Arranged, Songs, Dances, &c., small orchestra, 7s. 6d.; full orchestra, 10s. 6d. D'VISON, 93, Ivy-road, Northampton.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engt. by first-class Mus. Dir., piano and baton; good cinema or variety and pictures; good library. Box 236, "The Era."

WANTED, engagement by first-class Mus. Dir.; smart appearance; late Mus. Dir. to Russian Ballet; can provide first-class orchestra; experienced in every business; London preferred. Wire or write, MAX BERNGARTEN, 160, Stepney-green Dwellings, E. 1.

WANTED, Engt. as Mus. Dir. in theatre, variety theatre, or tour; long experience and reliable. FRED YOUNG, Perm. Add., Pupe House, Woodfield-avenue, Penn-Fields, Wolverhampton.

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WANTED, engagement as Bandmaster and Solo Cornet, for tenting season, 1921; experienced in all lines of Circus Business.
Good library, &c.
All particulars,
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WANTED, engagement as Conductor, cinema, London preferred, by a capable and experienced Musical Director (Pianist), with or without library. Full particulars to Box 242, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt., Lady Violinist, Leader-Conductor; powerful tone; small orchestra preferred. Box 251, "The Era."

WANTED Known, One of the Finest Conductors and Solo Violinists, for any combination, with or without supplying orchestra, open for first-class cinema or other very good Engagement. Very best Press notices and testimonials. Address, 7, The Terrace, Camden-square, London, N.W. 'Phone, North 1,498, between 11 and 12 o'c.

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Violin Repetiteur, able to lead; Cinema or Café; small library. VIOLINIST, 1, Sterne-street, Shepherd's Bush, W. 12.

WANTED, by Repetiteur, engagement, free after Saturday; thoroughly experienced, and will back up any leader. VIOLINIST, 30, Kensington-gardens-square, W. 2.

WANTED, ENGT. BY A FIRST-CLASS VIOLIN-LEADER; CAN SUPPLY ORCHESTRA IF REQUIRED. WIRE OR WRITE, 39, CHARLOTTE-STREET, W.

WANTED Known, Leader-Violinist, splendid soloist, can accept good London Engagement; hotel, café, or cinema. Box 271, "The Era."

WANTED, engagement by Leader-Violinist and Pianist; library of 1,500 pieces, including Tavan, Mouton. MUSICAL DIRECTOR, 28, Whittingstall-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, shortly by Leader-Violiniste, Orchestral Pianiste; permanent engt.; seaside; excellent library of high-class music, for Trio or Four; first-class players; reason for change, health. LEADER, c/o Roberts, 4, Granville-road, Southfields, S.W. 18.

WANTED, Engt. by Orchestral Violiniste-Leader, Soloist; at liberty Monday next; just finished 3½ years' Engt. in high-class Cinema, Scotland. Good offers only. ANNE M. TRICKETT, 75, Pershore-road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

WANTED Known, Leader-Conductor or Conductor, disengaged; brilliant concert Solo Violinist; Leader of Symphony and Concert Orchestras and Quartettes; West-End experience; large library; café or cinema; London or high-class Midlands preferred. For Press notices and testimonials, address NORMAN NELSON, 37, Howley-place, London, W. 2.

WANTED, Engt. by exp. Leader-Violinist, Soloist, with extensive up-to-date library; London only. State salary. 470, West Green-road, South Tottenham.

WANTED Known, Violiniste-Leader open to Engt., with or without Pianiste; any line; good library; would deputise. MISS MAUD EARDLEY-WILMOT, 31, Talbot-road, Bayswater, W. 2.

WANTED, Engt. by good First-class Leader-Violinist; exceptionally good soloist, with big tone; thoroughly conversant with Tavan, Alder, Mouton, and all standard works. Apply, VIOLINIST, 5, Mayo-street, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Mon. next, by Leader-Violinist and brilliant Orchestral Pianist (ladies); large library; also Repet. or Second Violin; fine Orches. players and Soloists; disengaged through theatre closing. 7, Lennox-road, Worthing, or 'phone 1524 Gerrard.

WANTED Known, Lady Violinist disengaged; thoroughly experienced. Terms must be stated. 74, Bridgford-road, Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, experienced at dance and cinema. VIOLINIST, 32, Granville-square, King's Cross, W.C. 1.

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WANTED Known, Violinist (good), pupil of Sauret, desires engagements, concert work, At Homes, private receptions, or halls' turns. 53, Derwent-road, Palmers Green, N.

WANTED, engagement by Violinist; any bus.; London only. Apply, H. C., Violinist, 556, Harrow-road, Maida-hill, W. 9.

WANTED, position by Violinist (not Leader), for Cinema; finished two years' engagement. GREEN, 16, Percival-street, Clerkenwell.

WANTED, by Violinist-Pianist (use to Tavan), Engagement; would deputise. 102, Drakefell-road, New Cross, London, S.E. 14.

WANTED, Engt. by Second Violinist, used to variety or theatre. J. YOUNG, 6, St. Peter's-lane, Leicester.

WANTED, Engt. by Violinist, to play with Leader at Cinema or Café; would deputise. MISS NEVE, Beech Tree Cottage, Woldingham, Surrey.

WANTED, by first-class Solo Violinist and Leader, or with own Trio or Quartette, Engt. in Cinema; London or suburbs; large, fine, up-to-date library; moderate terms. Write, VIOLINIST, 63, Church-street, Kensington, W.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Violinist, pictures, dances, or deputising. Write, EVANS, 17, Cambria-road, Camberwell, S.E. 5.

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WANTED, by Cornet, evening engagements; any bus.; can double with piano. Write, Box 237, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Cornet; London or suburbs; all-round experience. G. F. EATON, 47, Bedford-road, East Ham, E. 6.

WANTED, by First-class Cornet Soloist, Engagement; cinema, or any high-class show. Offers to CORNET, 36, Denbigh-road, West Ealing.

WANTED, Clarinettist; disengaged; good tone, refs.; exp. any bus. Pars. to 25, Loring-street, Newton Heath, Manchester.

WANTED Known, Engt. by exp. Clarinettist. Write, CLARINETTIST, 81, Bentley-street, Cleethorpes, Lincs.

WANTED, engagement by Clarinettist (concert pitch), London or suburbs, or would deputise; theatre, variety, pictures, dances; disengaged. A. STAMBERG, 35, Algar-estate, Waterloo-road, S.E. 1.

WANTED Known, Double Bass Player, thoroughly experienced, open for engagements from Jan. 12 to Feb. 18; any business; London and suburbs. BASSO, 61, Hadley-street, Kentish Town, London, N.W. 5.

WANTED, Engagement by thor. exp. Bass; first-class theatre or cinema FRED YOUNG, Pupe House, Woodfield-avenue, Penn-Fields, Wolverhampton.

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WANTED Known, Saxophone, now at liberty; good, reliable; excellent refs. Write in, A. H. KIDD, 50, St. Andrew's-road, Huddersfield.

WANTED Known, by Trombonist, Engt., first-class orchestra or touring; thor. exp.; good offers invited. Write, STEWART, 5, Cobden-street, Greenbank, Blackburn, Lancs.

WANTED, Engt. as Trombone; experienced in theatre and varieties. A.M.U. TROMBONE, 78, Milward-road, Hastings.

WANTED Known, Trombone, Quadrille, Jazz; any business. TROMBONE, 192, Munton-road, S.E. 17.

WANTED Known, JAZZ TROMBONIST and Soloist. Just finished long engagement. Now at liberty. Write, Box 270, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Lady 'Cellist; Cinema. 41, Nightingale-lane, Clapham Common, S.W. 12.

WANTED, Engt., in London only, by Lady 'Celliste; variety preferred; good rep.; strong tone; A.M.U.; evenings only. Write, DORIS ARCHER, 4, Netley Villas, Netley-street, South Farnborough, Hants.

WANTED, Engt., as 'Celliste, also Orchestral Pianiste; London or suburbs. 38, Chesilton-road, Fulham, S.W. 6.

WANTED, Engt. by well-known 'Celliste (Medalist); experienced in all kinds of high-class work; desires Engt. in hotel, café, or restaurant; at present at liberty; good only. Apply, VIOLONCELLO, 71, Morris-road, Southampton.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Sit.; fine soloist; 15 years' experience; well up in high-class music, Tavan, Alder, &c., and experienced in musical comedy, variety, &c.; age 34 and ex-Service man; audition arranged; at liberty Jan. 17. A. TONE, 134, Lavender-road, Battersea.

WANTED, by first-class 'Cellist, cinema work; over four years last place; evenings only; N. London preferred. Apply, 'CELLIST, 92, Belgrade-road, Stoke Newington, N. 16.

WANTED, by experienced 'Cellist, good permanent engagement; cinema preferred. Box 231, "The Era."

WANTED, engagement, experienced 'Cellist; evenings only; in town. Also deputise. Box 240, "The Era."

WANTED, London Engt. by first-class 'Cellist. Address, VINCENT, 152, Lambeth-terrace, S.E.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, nights only, in London. Good offers only entertained. Address, 560, Caledonian-road, N. 7.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young, Capable, Thoroughly Experienced Solo and Orchestral 'Cellist; broad tone; artistic interpreter. Good offers only. Cinema, Café, Hotel. Nottingham or Leicester Districts preferred. 83, High-street, Winchester.

WANTED Known, first-class Oboe Player, open for engagement from Jan. 12 to Feb. 18; any business; in London or suburbs. Apply by letter to F. C. WEBB, 42, Victoria-road, Holloway, London, N. 7.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Oboe. G. W. WEBB, 323, East-street, Old Kent-road, S.E. 17.

WANTED, by Flautist, Engagement; any business; please state terms in first letter. Address, FLAUTIST, 76, Waterloo-road, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute, Piccolo; any business; string or military; thoroughly reliable. P., 332, Cowley-mansions, Mortlake, London.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Flute and Piccolo; experienced all lines; best references; either pitch. Address, FLAUTISTE, 4, Saunders-street, Southport.

WANTED, engagement by Flautist; thoroughly experienced all lines; best refs. High-class Cinema preferred. Wire or write, with terms, to ALBERT E. COLBORNE, 57, Derby-road, Northampton.

WANTED Known, Flautist (and Pic.) at lib. for Engt.; experienced all round. FLAUTIST, 39, Yeldham-road, Hammersmith, W. 6.

WANTED, engagement, Flautist Sundays, matinées, cinemas, hotels, restaurant, &c.; reliable. FLAUTIST, 99, Byrne-road, Balham.

WANTED Known, Organist, Orchestral (Reed), and Relief Pianist at liberty; good library; 10 years' West-End experience. M. PETERS, 404, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, engagement by exp. Organist (pipe or reed), to open at once. Box 243, "The Era."

WANTED, engagement by reliable Organist, gent.; also Pianist. Box 244, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Exp. Pian.-Org.-Orch., Relief (Pipe or Mustel), at liberty; deputising pref. Also Perm. Orch.-Pian. HUNT, 20, Colville-terrace, W. 11.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Orchestral Organist, finishing West-End engagement on Saturday, invites good offers; thoroughly experienced. Would consider offer as Soloist if salary good. ORGANIST, 31, Kensington-gardens-square, W. 2.

WANTED Known, Lady Orch. Pianiste, thor exp., desires Engt.; hotel, café, or pictures. Address, PIANISTE, 171, Nags Head-road, Ponders End, N.

WANTED, Engagement, Deputising, good cinema, Relief Pianiste; experienced (solo). E. WYATT, 349, Essex-road, Canonbury, E.

WANTED, Engt. by Pianiste and 'Celliste; hotel or café preferred; both thoroughly experienced; own library; together or separate. N. M. PROCTER, 112, Warley-road, Blackpool, N.S.

WANTED, by Lady Pianiste, first engagement with nice class orchestra; good sight reader; certificated. Audition, Liverpool or Manchester district. Box 232, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Orchestral Pianiste, will Deputise. MISS KATE KIMBELL, A.R.C.M., 14, Whitehall-mansions, Highgate, N. 19.

WANTED, by Pianiste (lady), Cinema or Café; orch. or solo; refs.; North preferred. PIANISTE, 65, Boiling Hall-road, Bradford.

WANTED Known, Lady Solo Pianist at liberty Jan. 8. 12, Alwyne-square, Canonbury, N. 1.

WANTED, engagement by experienced Orchestral Pianiste; evenings only; London. Apply, PIANISTE, 67, Cottage-grove, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, by Lady Pianiste, L.R.A.M., Engagement as Accompanist, or with orchestra; experienced; good sight reader. Box 205, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Engt. by Orchestral Pianiste (A.R.C.M.), Cinema, London only. PIANISTE, 16, Finsbury Park-road, N.

WANTED Known, PHYLLIS MURRAY, thoroughly experienced Pianiste, at liberty; would deputise. 12, Alexandra-road, Hampstead, N.W. 8.

WANTED Known, Disengaged, thoroughly experienced Orchestral and Relief Pianiste; all work; 4 years present reference from first-class West-End cinema; large repertoire; would deputise. POPPY SATCHELL, 13, Norland-square, Holland Park, W. 11.

WANTED Known, good Relief Pianist, Disengaged for Deputising. PIANIST, 10, Fulham-place, Paddington, W. 2.

WANTED, engagement in cinema for London by Orchestral Pianist immediately by A. W. SCOTT, 17, Ellingham-road, Shepherd's Bush, W. 12.

WANTED, London Engt. by first-class Orchestral Pianist. MUSICIAN, 152, Lambeth-terrace, S.E.

WANTED Known, VICTOR WATKINSON, Cinema Relief Pianist, at liberty to deputise. 102, Plimsoll-road, Finsbury Park, N. 4. 'Phone, North 3329.

WANTED, Engt. by brilliant Pianist (male); Pics., Var., hotel, or any business; London preferred. Apply, ZAHAROFF, c/o 11, Doughty-st., W.C. 1.

WANTED Known, Pianist, at liberty for Engagements in Dance Orchestra; series or odd nights; would deputise. Box 258, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Orchestral Pianist, cinema; terms reasonable. Write, Box 263, "The Era."

WANTED, engagement as Orchestral Pianist, disengaged on Jan. 10; thoroughly experienced in Tavan arrangements and standard overtures; extensive and up-to-date library if required. Audition any morning; town or provinces. Letters, F. C. HANWELL, 17, St. Ervans-road, Westbourne Park, W. 10.

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WANTED, Jan. 10 and 24, ex-Sergt. A. E. HILL, Handcuff King and Illusionist; share or salary. See "John Bull," page 7, Jan. 1. Wire, 131, Brixton-hill, London, S.W. 2.

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PANTOMIME. To Sell at end of run— J. Bannister Howard's Magnificent production complete, "JACK AND THE BEANSTALK." Can be seen at the Grand Theatre, Plymouth. All communications to WILLIAM MARTIN, 15, Clifford's Inn, Fleet-st., London, E.C. 4.

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THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBORO.

CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP.

The Proprietors being unable to obtain list of Bookings or Copies of Contracts, hereby give notice that no Contracts will be accepted after the week commencing Jan. 24th, 1921.

"THE HUNCHBACK OF CREMONA."

A new one-act opera bearing the above title was produced on Saturday evening at the Scarborough Yuletide Musical Festival. The music was composed by Mr. Alick Maclean, and was adapted by H. E. I. Durand from Francois Coppée's play "Le Luthier de Crémorne." It is an effective story of sacrifice for love. The sacrifice is made by Filippo, a violin maker, winner of the prize in the great competition, so that Giannina may wed the man she loves—his fellow apprentice. Only a few of the numbers were given, but these were sufficient to show that the opera is a great advance upon the earlier "Quentin Durward." Examples of the composer's felicity of style are found in the air for Giannina, "Look in My Eyes," which has great charm of phrase; the chorus of the people; the solo which illustrates the beauty of the prize violin; and Filippo's final soliloquy. With the assistance of Miss Hilda Blake, M. Mischa-Leon, the Sheffield Choir, and with the composer as conductor, the extract produced a marked impression.

The closing programme of the Festival also included the oratorio "The Annunciation," by Mr. Alick Maclean, first performed nine years ago. It contains many revised passages and some entirely new. Miss Hilda Blake, Miss Craig James, Mr. J. P. Davison, and M. Mischa-Leon gave the solo parts.

FROM THE PROVINCES.

NOTES AND NEWS OF TOURING PLAYS.

ACCRINGTON.

NEW HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Donald O. Clark; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Jackson.—Mr. Gar Kidde presents the pantomime "Bo-Peep," and deserves every commendation for a really first-class production.

Boors, The Chemists, 89-91, Blackburn-road.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. Chas. Revill; A. M., Mr. Chas. Revill, junr.; B. M., Mr. Jno. Revill.—Mr. Harry Joseph presents his pantomime "Dick Whittington and His Lucky Cat," with Miss Lena Stanton as Dick.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead & Son; G. M., Mr. A. Winstanley; A. M., Mr. Jno. Boyle.—Geo. Wilbey, the popular impressionist; Vasco, the mad musician, in a new act; Jack Nevis and Billie Neil, in their absurdity, "The Pro. and the Messenger;" Bert Rayburn, comedian; Mack Kelroy and Billie Wyn, in a dancing novelty; Harry Shiels in "Empties," supported by Geo. H. Miles, and Minnie Roy; Albert Foster and Ninon, in comedy song divertissement; and Horace Barnes, impromptu rhymster.

Boors, The Chemists, 140, Old-sq.

ATTERCLIFFE.

PALACE.—Lessees, Messrs. Walker and Bennett; B. M., Mr. Arthur R. Walker; A. M., Mr. Edwin F. Gaunt; Mus. D., Mr. W. Davison. — The Anserouls, Belgian acrobats; Jack Coulter, laughing comedian; Rosie Fitzgerald, Australian comedienne; Arthur Bright, novel singing and musical mountaineer; Arthur Berry and Gert Sloan, in vocal novelty and eccentric dancing; Fred Hunt, comedian; and The Elmar Trio, in a highly sensational act.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY.—L., Mr. Hugh Robertson; M., Mr. T. W. Armstrong.—Mr. Robert Courteidge presents "Paddy the Next Best Thing."

TIVOLI.—L., Signor Pepi; M., Mr. J. G. Johnson.—Charlier Bros., Will Lacy, The Macinis, Joyce and Shields, Rich. Taylor, Jack Tarr, and Frank Powell.

BATH.

PALACE.—D., Mr. W. S. Pearce.—The Misses Moore and Roby, the repartee girls, are appearing here for the first time; Daisy Mignon, the musical maid; Mark Stone and Josie Bradly, in revue for two; Geo. Rymer, burlesque comedian; the Vedras, comedy acrobats; and Haydn's marionettes complete an excellent variety entertainment.

PUMP ROOM.—D., Mr. John Hatton; Mus. D., Mr. Jan Hurst.—The first three days the attraction is the film of Sir Ernest Shackleton's Antarctic Expedition, entitled "South," while the latter half of the week the Glastonbury Festival Players will present the nativity play, "Bethlehem," under the personal direction of Mr. Rutland Broughton.

Boors, The Chemists, 21-22, Union-st.; 55, Southgate-st.

BATLEY.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. Percy Leonard; Mus. D., Mr. A. E. Hirst.—Messrs. J. H. Shaw and Co. present "The Quaker Girl."

BELFAST.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden; R. M., Mr. James M. McCann; Mus. D., Mr. S. P. Swanton.—Mr. Fred W. Warden's successful Christmas pantomime, "Aladdin," commenced on Monday second week of its run here.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—D. of Entertainment, Mr. D. G. Clarke; R. M., Mr. George Dobler; Mus. D., Mr. John C. Fowler.—The top of the bill here is occupied by Mr. Julian Rose, the popular Hebrew comedian, whose "Levinsky at the Wedding" meets with unqualified success. Cooke, Mortimer, and Harvey introduce some remarkable cycling; and Gaston Morel, French humorist, appears in "Cleaning a Lamp." The Soga Trio are truly described as wonderful Japanese artists; and also billed are The Bounders, human grasshoppers; Lane and Dixon, the tailor maids; Ralph and Morel, syncopated duo; and Miss Tessie Stuart, in smart songs and capital Scotch dances.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L., Mr. Barney Armstrong; G. M., Mr. Vincent Potter; Mus. D., Mr. J. C. Evans.—Barney Armstrong's pantomime, "Cinderella," continues to delight this host of patrons, the theatre being crowded at each performance.

NEW ALHAMBRA.—G. M., Mr. W. Gibson Bradley.—Vaudeville here by Fleming and Drennan, up-to-date comedy duo; and Galdo Brothers, in comedy acrobatic act.

GAIETY.—G. M., Mr. Ernest E. Forbes; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Wright.—Bandone, one-man band, is drawing crowded houses here.

BILSTON.

ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; R. M., Mr. Fred Rothery-Ellis.—"Aladdin" is being presented here by Jack Williams' company, which includes Beatrice Lillian (Aladdin), Evelyn Lilian (Princess), Reg. Sackville-West (Abanazar), Fred Ramsdale (Widow).

BIRKENHEAD.

ARGYLE THEATRE.—S. P. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. H. O'Neill; Mus. D., Mr. A. Workman.—Miss Ina Hill, prima donna; Jack Thomas, the popular comedian; Julot and Piero, in an amusing act; Razza, the human gramophone; Foster Kershaw, always an acceptable turn here; the Four Revels, Harry Moore, and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—S. P. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. Chas. Eastwood; Mus. D., Mr. J. Whitelock.—E. C. Jazon and M. Montgomery's pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood."

Boors, The Chemists, 239-241, Grange-rd.

BLACKPOOL.

OPERA HOUSE.—R. M., Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone; A. M., Mr. W. T. Russell; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Greenhalgh.—The D'Oyly Carte company opened the second and final week of its season with "Iolanthe."

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. George Harrop; A. M., Mr. Fred Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Jepson.—The programme includes St. Just and Higgins, king's jesters; Tom Fox, Bros Pernane, Fred Morris, Ben Saib, Albert and Rogers, Ian and Girls, Joe Archer, The Donatos, &c.

Boors, The Chemists, 12-18, Market-street; Church-street; and Station-road.

BLYTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Scottish Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Fred Reed; R. M., Mr. George L. Crow; Mus. D., Mr. William Hall. — A delightful change of entertainment is provided by the John Ridding Opera Co., who opened on Monday night in the popular opera, "Il Trovatore," "Rigoletto," "Faust," and a complete change for the last nights are promised.

Boors, The Chemists, 37, Waterloo-road.

BOLTON.

HIPPODROME.—P., Bolton Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. Frank Shelley.—Joseph Hayman presents "Jack in the Box."

GRAND.—P., Bolton Theatres and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Alf. Booth.—Wal Langtry, Prop-pella, Haywood and Hay, James Hunter, Lawrence and Bowie, Harry Friskey, Donaldson, Wheedon and Co.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Bolton Theatre Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. John Moncur.—Messrs. Jazon and Montgomery present "Cinderella."

Boors, The Chemists, 29-31, Knowsley-st.; 139, Derby-st.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. Nat Hepworth; A. M., Mr. Harry Martell.—Mr. Nat Hepworth presents "Dick Whittington."

PRINCE'S. — P., Mr. Francis Laidler; M., Mr. Frank Yearsley. — Mr. Francis Laidler presents "Aladdin."

ALHAMBRA.—M. D., Mr. Francis Laidler; M., Mr. Phillip A. Lennon.—Arnaut Bros., Hilda Glyder, Martyn and Florence, Horace Ainsley, James Teddy, Gwynne and Vane, Maher and Langford.

PALACE. — P., Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit, Ltd.; M., Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—Haig and Ryan, Ackroyd (assisted by Miss Rose Hardy), Bros. Leo, Roya, Lillie Langtry, Daring Dinnies.

Boors, The Chemists, 60-62, Kirkgate.

BRIDLINGTON.

SPA OPERA HOUSE.—M. for the Corporation, Mr. Charles Palmer; Asst. M., Mrs. F. Presser.—Mr. Frank Forbes-Robertson and company in "The Passing of the Third Floor Back"; Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, "Mice and Men."

BRIGHTON.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Chas. Gulliver; G. M. & L., Mr. W. H. Boardman; A. M., Mr. A. Coote-Suggit; Mus. D., Mr. E. Oram.—"Patches," a Harry Day revue, with star company.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. Lawson Lambert; Mus. D., Mr. Sommerlad.—"Chu Chin Chow."

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. J. W. Cordiner; Mus. D., Mr. W. Pickard.—"The Babes in the Wood."

WEST PIER THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. A. W. Scholey; Mus. D., Mr. H. Crapps.—"Scandal."

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mrs. Kimberley; G. M., Mr. F. Liston; Mus. D., Mr. T. Parsons.—"Little Red Riding Hood."

Boors, The Chemists, 64, Church-road, Hove; 204, Church-road, Hove; 88, Preston-road; 17 and 18, James's-street; 19, London-road; 158-162, Western-road.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—M. D.'s Mr. Jas. Macready Chute and Mr. John Hart; M., Mr. J. Ellis Miller; A. M., Mr. Geo. M. Chute; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. R. Chapman.—The pantomime, "Tom, Tom, the Piper's Son," is meeting with an enthusiastic reception.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., The Bristol Theatre, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Windsor-Stevenson.—"Cinderella," this funny pantomime, is proving a great success.

HIPPODROME. — M. D., Sir Oswald Stoll; M., Mr. S. Fortescue-Harrison; A. M., Mr. Edwd. Fryer; Mus. D., Mr. Howard W. Galpin.—G. H. Elliott, the chocolate coloured coon; Peggy O'Hara; Delsion Trio; Emilie Hayes; Graham and Cullen; Fred Russell, ventriloquial humorist; and Dare Austin and Co., in "His Wedding Morn."

EMPIRE.—R. M., Mr. Coram Smart.—G. T. Pattman and his famous organ, assisted by Miss Minnie Rigby; Joe Boganny and Co., in "Oh, What a Night for the Billposters"; Nina Martin, the new revue artist; Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Japanese equilibrists; Jack Straw, comedian; and Dolly Elsworthy, in character studies.

Boors, The Chemists, 9-10, Wine-street.

BURNLEY.

VICTORIA.—P., Victoria Opera House, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—Victoria Cross presents, under her personal supervision, "The Greater Law."

EMPIRE. — P., Victoria Opera House, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—Harry Russell and "forty others" present "Cinderella."

PALACE.—P., Burnley Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Allan Williams.—Robb Wilton, comedian; Harcourt, Freshwater, and company in "Devilled Chicken"; Edna Maude, the spirit of dance; Tom Taylor, rustic musician; Jacques Londres and his violin; Russell Carr, military ventriloquist.

Boors, The Chemists, 90, St. James-street.

BURSLEM.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. P. Collins; M., Mr. Johnson.—Northern Entertainments present "Lizzie."

Boors, The Chemists, 28-30, Queen-street.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Sec. & G. M., Mr. F. A. Hastings; Mus. D., Mr. G. F. Burgiss.—The Carl Rosa Opera Company.

HIPPODROME. — L. & M., Mr. Allan Milton; R. M., Mr. James Pilkington; Mus. D., Mr. Reg. Goddard. — Horace Monto, in a novel musical entertainment; pictures, &c.

THE PICTURE HOUSE.—P., Mr. Allan Milton; Mus. D., Miss E. L. Mainwood, G.S.M.—Afternoons, 2.45 to 5; evenings (continuous), 6.30 to 10.30 p.m.

Boors, The Chemists, 46-50, Spring-gardens.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.; R. M., Mr. P. H. Adams; Mus. D., Mr. I. Gilby Briggs.—The Geo. Brydon Phillips company is the pantomime, "Cinderella."

PLAYHOUSE.—P., The Cambridge Picture Playhouses, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Geo. Haddon.—Lona Wayne, comedian and humorist, and pictures.

CARDIFF.

NEW THEATRE.—Sole P. & M., Mr. Robert Redford; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Angle.—Mr. Robert Redford's pantomime, "Goody Two Shoes," continues to draw packed houses. Miss Bertha Wensley Russell is the principal boy and Miss Haidee de Rance principal girl.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. C. T. Hutchison; Mus. D., Mr. D. Griffiths.—Maidie Scott, the gifted comedienne; Mike S. Whallen, the prince of extempore; Parish and Pern, Omega Trio, Scott Gibson, The Melody Makers, and Nelson and Nelson.

Boors, The Chemists, 36, Queen-street; 31, Albany-road.

CHELTENHAM.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—L., Mr. Robert Redord; G. M., Mr. H. Oswald Redord; Mus. D., Mr. H. Teague.—"Cinderella," having achieved a marked success, enters on its second week under favourable conditions.

COLISEUM. — P., Mr. H. G. Beard; R. M., Mr. A. H. Greenland; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Shackleton.—Herbert Darnley presents "Box o' Tricks."

TOWN HALL.—P., Cheltenham Corporation.—The Municipal Orchestra, under Mr. Leo Dawes, continues to give a good account of itself daily. Sunday evening, a special concert, with an orchestra under Mr. J. H. Whittaker, was a big draw. Miss Lorna Norman gave excellent pianoforte selections.

Boors, The Chemists, 129-130, High-street.

CHESTERFIELD.

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodrome, Ltd. (Chesterfield); G. M., Mr. F. J. Welchman.—Messrs. Beresford and Pearce present "Great Scott."

Boors, The Chemists, 21, Market-place.

DEVONPORT.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. E. E. Harper.—Mr. Jack Waller's company in "The Stockpot" provides this week's attraction. The cast includes Jack Waller, Wylie Watson, Cecilia Gold, Robert Hine, Marion Armitage, Ada Smart, and Billy Gordon.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Herbert Asquith; Mus. D., Mr. J. Field.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy present their pantomime, "The House that Jack Built."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Geo. E. Smith; R. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett; Mus. D., Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—Franco Piper, the pattering banjo king; Milly and Gordon Trio, in vaudeville versatilities; Julian Rose, comedian and entertainer; Mart and Pep, acrobatic hand-to-hand balancers; Dorothy Belton, soprano; Shogun and Ryan, comedy and speciality shooting act; Terry Twins, duplicate comedians.

Boors, The Chemists, 38, Market-place.

DOVER.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — M. D., Mr. L. W. Winter; R. M., Mr. C. Taylor Lawson; M. C., Mr. W. Medhurst.—The Six Brothers Luck present their musical comedy, "What Next?"

Boors, The Chemists, 11, Cannon-st.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY.—M., Mr. C. Hyland; Mus. D., Mr. W. S. Nabarro.—The successful Christmas pantomime, "Sinbad," continues to run its merry course here, playing to packed houses nightly.

THEATRE ROYAL HIPPODROME. — M., Mr. J. H. Hamilton; Mus. D., Mr. Jno. Moody.—Topping the bill here is Carl Hertz, the famous illusionist, featuring his Indian rope trick, assisted by Emilie D'Alton and the Nautch dancer, Zira Kayhan. Other turns are Michael Richardini Troupe, in a novelty act; the Three Scamps, in rag-time entertainment; Lamazo Trio, originators of the high table fall; Zona and Milroy, in comedy items; Madge Bilton and Max, burlesque comedy couple; Bert Williams, in a vaudeville act; and Mollie Butler, dialect comedienne.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L., Mr. B. Armstrong; M., Mr. A. Armstrong; Mus. D., Mr. W. J. Mitchell.—Barney Armstrong's pantomime, "The House that Jack Built," is proving one of the most successful produced here. Brimful of catchy songs, clever comedy, and excellent dancing, the production runs smoothly from start to finish.

LA SCALA THEATRE.—P., Messrs. F. W. Chambers and G. P. Fleming; Mus. D., Mr. W. T. W. Mortimer.—The Paramount Artcraft photoplay, "Luck in Pawn," proves a big attraction here; in addition, Evelyn May, the distinguished violinist, appears.

QUEEN'S.—M.; Mr. J. L. O'Sullivan; Mus. D., Mr. S. Levenston.—The "Babes in the Wood" pantomime grows more popular here each week, "House Full" being the order at every performance.

TIVOLI.—M., Mr. C. M. Jones; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Taylor.—Bert Elliott and his "Topsy Turvy Toppers"; in addition, Mme. Godwin, in musical scena, "Granny's Birthday"; Edith Allen, vocalist; Gerald Reid, baritone; Marion Scott, male impersonator; Pat McNamara, comedian; Kingsford and Paff, in a musical comedy act; and Franklyn Bros., athletes, complete.

DUNDEE.

KING'S.—P., Dundee Theatres, Ltd.; M. D. & Licensee, Mr. W. Firth; D. & M., Mr. J. H. Oakden; Mus. D., Mr. Wm. Hartley.—Heading a fine holiday bill is the Lawrence Wright Ensemble, under the direction of Horatio Nicholls, the company including Gertrude Kaye, mezzo-soprano; Dorothy Huxtable, violiniste; F. Rowland Tims, F.R.C.O., at the piano; and Darrol Richards, tenor. They are accorded a hearty reception. A brilliant exposition of jazz, whirlwind, and ballroom dances is given by Harry Russell and Ethel Durbin; Otorasan, a remarkable little Japanese singer and dancer, creates a furore; Knapp and Cornella present a neat and clever show; and other excellent turns are contributed by Bandmaster Morris, a versatile musician; and Nicol and Martin, comedy cycle riders.

QUEEN'S.—P., Mr. Arthur Henderson. Vaudeville here by the Two Bartons, in comedy and vocal speciality acts; and La Fayme, in character song studies, violoncello solos, &c. Pictures complete.

TIVOLI.—The pantomime, "Cinderella," played by a well-selected company, gives great satisfaction to big audiences here.

KINNAIRD.—P., Messrs. Hamilton Bros.; M., Mr. Victor Hamilton; Mus. D., Mr. H. E. Loseby.—An excellent programme comprises selections by the Symphony Orchestra, grand organ selections by Mr. G. H. Millers; solos by the Misses Loseby; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 14, Reform-street.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—L. & M., Messrs. Murray King and Clark; M., Mr. Douglas Gordon; A. M., Mr. George E. Godwin; Mus. D., Mr. F. Seymour.—Messrs. Murray King and Clark's pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

PIER THEATRE.—M., Mr. H. Owen Taylor; Mus. D., Mr. E. W. Peilgen.—Mr. K. Heaton Adens' pantomime, "The Forty Thieves."

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — M. D., Mr. Sidney W. Winter; M., Mr. H. Raymond; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Ash.—Messrs. J. Leslie Illes and C. B. Lilburn's company, in "Pretty Babette."

DEVONSHIRE PARK.—M. & Sec., Mr. E. A. Brown. Daily concerts by the orchestra, under the direction of Capt. H. G. Amers. Vocalists, Gennaro de Tura, Italian tenor; and Miss Dorothy Squire, contralto.

PAVILION CINEMA.—Pictures and The Pavilion entertainers.

Boors, The Chemists, 14-16, Sussex-gardens; 6, Seaside.

EDINBURGH.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; G. M., Mr. P. L. Howat; Mus. D., Mr. E. J. Rogers.—"A Night Out," presented by Messrs. George Grossmith and Mr. Edward Laurillard, is the holiday attraction here. Acted by an admirable cast, which includes Miss Maidie Andrews as Marcelle Delaraux, and Mr. Norman Griffin as Joseph Pinglet, and by the popular comedian Mr. Jimmy Godden as Maxime Paillard, the musical farce forms a very bright and cheery entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL.—The pantomime, "Cinderella," continues to draw large houses here.

Boors, The Chemists, 102, Princes-street.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS.—P., Folkestone Pleasure Gardens Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Ewart C. Patter.—The George Edwardes production, "Our Peg."

Boors, The Chemists, 12, Rendezvous-st.; 61, High-st.

GAINSBOROUGH.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Arthur Carlton; R. M., Mr. Stanley Hooper; Mus. D., Mrs. E. E. Leaning. — Mr. Jack Arnold's pantomime company in "Aladdin."

Boors, The Chemists, 30, Market-place.

GLOUCESTER.

PALACE THEATRE. — P., Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. R. Poole.—Miss Clara Santley's company, in the play, entitled "Ignorance."

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Gloucester Hippodrome Co.; Booking M., Mr. W. Edward.—Herbert la Martine and Partner, in dancing act; Miss Leslie Elliott, entertainer at the piano; Laurie Carton, comedy cartoonist; and Rosie Gaston, comedienne. Miller and Phiora, an entertaining pair; Revil and Syd, in song and dance; and The Bromlos, comedy duo.

Boors, The Chemists, 139, Westgate-street; 94-95, Northgate-street.

GREENOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright; Mus. D., Mr. James Murchie.—Mr. Fred Collins' "All-Scotch" pantomime, "Cinderella," entered its second and concluding week on Monday, and is proving a strong attraction. Miss Daisy Morrell is an excellent Prince Regent, and her songs are well received; Dandini is ably represented by Miss Nora Gray, and Miss Rita Hutcheson makes a charming Cinderella. Messrs. Lister and Wood as the Broker's Men contribute some highly amusing work which is keenly enjoyed; Mr. Dan Young is to the fore as Peter, the Baron's Page, and never fails to create a laugh; Messrs. Billy Riddle and Harry Leybourne, as the Baron's Stepdaughters, are screamingly funny; and as Baron Hardupp Mr. Bobbie Perse does well. Others who render admirable support include Miss Vinnie Radford (Randolph), Miss Babs Radford (Rudolph), and Mr. Horace Hutcheson (Bumptious).

Boors, The Chemists, 24, Hamilton-street.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES.—M. D., Councillor J. H. Curry; A. M., Mr. S. S. Hawdon; Mus. D., Mr. J. Bingley.—After several years' absence Mr. Percy Hutchison is here in his latest comedy, "A Pair of Sixes," and is assured of a hearty welcome from Grimsby playgoers.

Boors, The Chemists, 108, Cleethorpes-road.

HANLEY.

ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. Alan Young; M., Mr. Albert Bulmer.—The second week of "Red Riding Hood" (Mr. John Tiller's production) finds the pantomime a greater success than ever.

GRAND.—M. D., Mr. Alan Young; M., Mr. Albert Bulmer.—A good bill includes Hiawatha and Minnehaha, trained chimpanzees; Will Hay, the schoolmaster comedian; Frank Fay, comedian; Cruikshank, the fool of the family; Bob Anderson and polo pony; The Stellios and their canine wonders; and Laveen and Cross, in a novel act, "Julius and Brutus."

Boors, The Chemists, 24-26, Piccadilly.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY.—G. M., Mr. H. W. Rowland; R. M., Mr. C. E. Scutt; M. D., Mr. Thos Hilton.—Pantomime holds the boards here, Murray King and Clark's "Dick Whittington" being the attraction. Murray King himself (a huge favourite here) plays at the head of a powerful company, including George Grogie and Jenny Robbins—the latter a splendid principal boy.

ROYAL CONCERT HALL (ST. LEONARDS).—P., Elite Picture Theatres (Hastings and Bristol), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. M. Williamson Broad.—The Hastings Corporation present Julian Clifford and his orchestra daily. At a special matinée next Saturday, Miss Constance Collier is billed to appear.

PALACE PIER (ST. LEONARDS). — M. D., Mr. J. H. Gardner; B. M., Mr. Percy Brown—Daily concerts by Norfolk Megone and his orchestra. The artist appearing this week is John Van Zyl, the South African bass.

Boors, The Chemists, 17-19, Robertson-street, George-street.

HEBBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. G. Grantham; M., Mr. E. Grantham; Asst. M., Mr. J. Sherwood.—Smith and Walker, Scottish entertainers with a piano, and the Unique Skaters, in their acrobatic, comedy skating act, and pictures.

HITCHIN.

BLAKE'S THEATRE. P., Blake Bros. (Theatres), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Will Rolston; Mus. D., Mr. L. G. Shrive.—The Belmars, the merry marionettes; Syd Sydney; and pictures.

PLAYHOUSE.—P., Hitchin Playhouse, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. R. A. Brown; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Baker.—The Artistic Four, in a refined and novel musical vocal speciality; Martin Henderson, concertina soloist and pianist; Harry Jameson, light comedy entertainer; and pictures.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL. — D., Mr. Alfred Wareing; A. M., Mr. J. R. Gregson. — Nevill Graham's pantomime, "Aladdin," now in its second week, has proved a great success, and the clever artists are great favourites.

PALACE.—M., Mr. Herbert Garside.—Arthur Rigby's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood," opened here on Monday. It abounds in clever fun, dainty dancing, bright choruses, and catchy songs, well rendered.

Boors, The Chemists, 16-18, King-st.

HULL.

PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; M., Mr. Walter A Cooke.—Arthur Prince, Joseph Cheetham, May Talbot, Felovis, Eileen and Marjorie, James Stewart, "Milady's Dressing Table"

Boors, The Chemists, 10-12, King-street.

ILKESTON.

COLISEUM.—L., Mr. Samuel Lloyd; M., Mr. Alfred H. Hook.—Mr. A. E. Smith presents "Jack the Giant Killer."

Boors, The Chemists, 122-124, Bath-street.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM.—P., Ipswich Lyceum, Ltd.; Lessees, Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Miss Edith Parkyn; Mus. D., Mr. H. Lewin Taylor.—J. A. E. Malone's company in "Who's Hooper?"

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. R. Hendry; Mus. D., Mr. Morberg.—Hanlon Bros. and Co. in "Pantomime absurdity"; Frank and Rose O'Neil, banjo and singing; Ryan and Raymond, rag-time comedians; Ross and Grace, comedians; R. W. Willing, dancing; Hector and Lolletta, comedians on a ladder; Van Bern and Contralto Queen, comedians, bioscope.

Boors, The Chemists, 22, Tavern-street; 52, Westgate-street.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. Hugh Robertson; M., Mr. J. D. Robertson. — Mrs. Kimberley and Frank Liston's company are presenting the musical comedy dramatic play, "Tatters."

THE KINO.—M., Mr. Percy Dawsone.—The Ten Australians, in vocal scena, and pictures.

JERSEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—L., Messrs. Edward Marris and Albany Ward; R. M., Mr. Fred. Benton; Mus. D., Mr. A. W. McKee.—There is big booking for the pantomime, "Cinderella," which opened here on Tuesday with Mr. C. A. Stephenson in the part of Capers.

Boors, The Chemists, 25, Queen-street.

KEIGHLEY.

HIPPODROME. — L., Mr. Francis Laidler; M., Mr. J. Austin Walshaw; Mus. D., Mr. W. Lupton.—The Romanescas, in a musical act, head the bill here. Other turns include Three Sisters Macarte, in an original act, "Versatility"; Lauri Howard, comedian, "The Mad Horse"; Millie Gold, male impersonator; Francis and Alfred, juggling act; The Two Cures, original coster kids; and Charlie Rich, comedian.

Boors, The Chemists, 58, Cavendish-street.

KETTERING.

COLISEUM.—P., Messrs. Thompson Bros.; G. M., Mr. Arthur Thompson; S. M., Mr. Bennett; Mus. D., Mr. Wilf. Sturman. —Mr. Harry Firth presents his pantomime, "Babes in the Wood."

Boors, The Chemists, 31-32, Market-place.

LEEK.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—P., The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; L. & G. M., Mr. Allan Milton; R. M., Mr. J. W. Malpass; Mus. D., Miss Agnes Bratt.—"The Lass of the Looms" and other pictures of interest.

SALISBURY PALACE.—P., Mr. Sampson Salt; L. & G. M., Mr. Allan Milton; R.M., Mr. J. W. Malpass.—"Roped" and other films.

Boors, The Chemists, 17, St. Edward-st., and Sheep Market-st.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole P. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. W. R. King; Mus. D., Mr. Walter W. Waddington. — The pantomime, "Babes in the Wood," continues to attract good houses.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole L. & M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. W. R. King; A. M., Mr. Will L. Clement; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Vann.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's popular company continue to do splendid business here. This week's attraction is "The Apple of Eden."

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Sir Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Trueman Towers; Asst. A. M., Mr. Thomas J. Phillips; Mus. D., Mr. John W. Lowe.—A good all-round programme is successfully contributed to by the Great Rameses, the royal magician; Peter Paries, in plaintive comedy; Cornalla and Eddie, in "Toss 'Em and Miss 'Em"; the Cycling Brunettes, in the novelty, "Defying Gravity"; Walker's Juveniles, presenting a quick-change vocal and dancing scena; George Calver, the voice controller; and Val Vett, the rag-picking rag painter. Pictures complete.

PAVILION THEATRE.—P., The Macnaghten Vandeville Circuit, Ltd.; B. M., Mr. Joseph Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Britcher.—An exhilarating entertainment is provided here by Mr. W. S. Logan's company in the revue, "Whirls and Girls," with Harold Baker as the chief comedian.

Boors, The Chemists, 9, Belvoir-street; 301, Belgrave-gate.

LLANDRINDOD WELLS.

GRAND PAVILION THEATRE. — Owners, Urban District Council; Lessee & M., Mr. W. Alec Millward. — Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, J. F. Younge presents "Cinderella," with Miss Nellie Worth as Cinderella, Georgina Fischer as Prince Charming; speciality, The Olympian Dancers.

MAIDENHEAD.

HIPPODROME.—P. & M., Mr. Geo. Gude.—Arthur Rosebery presents the pantomime extravaganza, "Merry King Neptune."

NEATH.

PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. E. Gilley; Mus. D., Mr. H. J. Burbridge; M., Mr. R. Nightingale. — Messrs. R. Nightingale present the pantomime "Mother Hubbard," with Miss Dolly Richardson in the title-rôle; May Royal, Tommy Tucker; Maisie Asquith, Margery Daw; Phillis Elton, Squire Tantany; Gwen Kay, Lady Dolly; Maud Carroll, Fairy Benevolentes; Jack Graham, Towzer; Charlie Wood, Grins; Bert Earle, King Keerees; Harry Vernon, Tapley Wax; Bros. Harrison, Muddle and Punch. Specialities are introduced by Earle and Richardson, The Brothers Harrison, Elton and Kay, and Maxina Girls.

Boors, The Chemists, 56, Wind-st.

NEWPORT.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; M., Mr. A. R. Hollands. — Frank Van Hoven, Robert Reilley, Fyne and Hurley, Ilzuka and Partner, Jack Merritt, Rich Hayes, Russell and Forrest.

Boors, The Chemists, 13, Commercial-st.

NORTHAMPTON.

NEW THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Percy H. Gallagher; Mus. D., Mr. Lawrie Owen; S. M., Mr. Sydney Hammond.—The farce, "At Ten o'Clock To-morrow," is presented by Alex. Mee; Alberta Flahey, a brilliant violiniste, and her tenor, unnamed, make good. Another favourite is the accomplished La Belle Nello. Wager, Storm and Rudd, Henry Bekker, Pathé's Gazette, &c., complete.

Boors, The Chemists, 6, Gold-street.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Horace Lee; Mus. D., Mr. Charles Turner.—Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Maclaren's company, in "The Sign of the Cross."

BOROUGH THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Thompson and Collins; G. M., Mr. G. F. Hill; R. M., Mr. James Johnson; Mus. D., Mr. Cecil Lavender.—The Five Waldrons, spring board flyers; Lambert Harvey, tenor; and pictorials.

Boors, The Chemists, 15-17, Saville-st.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL — L., Messrs. Bostock and Fitt; M., Mr. Hy. Furnivall. —Mr. Hy. Baynton and Co. in "The Melting Pot."

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Bostock and Fitt. — George Campbell presents "Dick Whittington."

ELECTRIC CINEMA THEATRE.—P., F. H. Coopers, Ltd.; M., Mr. H. Rinder. —Varieties: Betty and Billie Burne; George Bales.

THATCHED PICTURE THEATRE.—P., Mr. J. O. Bond; M., Mr. G. Starkey. —Varieties: Thelma Peterson, Dan Clark, and Harry Brenton.

PRINCE OF WALES' CINEMA. — P., F. H. Coopers, Ltd.; M., Mr. C. E. Kingdom.—Varieties: Marvi and Cecile.

Boors, The Chemists, 38, London-street, Brigg-street; 6, Goat-lane; 22, Magdalen-street.

OLDHAM.

GRAND.—P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. H. Kilrow.—William Watson and Co. present the comic pantomime, "Mother Goose."

PALACE.—P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. E. Sharrocks.—Horace Jones and Partner, in "Seaside Sketches"; Jock McKay, Scotch comedian; the Skating Nelsons, in a novelty comedy skating act; Yost and Glady, in clay modelling; Malvina, the fiddler; Eddie Bayes, comedian; Ladd West, the puzzle; and the Palace pictures.

ROYAL.—P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. H. C. Moroney.—Alfred Denville's company appear in "It's Always the Woman."

Boors, The Chemists, 40-42, Mumps; 28, Market-place.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—P., Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. & S., Mr. S. C. Dorrill; Asst. M., Mr. W. F. Smith; Mus. D., Mr. C. F. Trevor.—The Geo. Brydon-Phillip's company are presenting the pantomime, "Puss in Boots."

Boors, The Chemists, 1, Queen-st. and 120, St. Aldates, Carfax.

PAISLEY.

THEATRE.—S. P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. Harry W. Pinchon; Mus. D., Mr. Bert W. Stephens.—The Elliott Savonas, in

THE REALM OF MUSIC.

THE MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

ORCHESTRAL NOTES AND NEWS.

British Conductor's American Triumph.

Mr. Albert Coates conducted his first Symphony Concert in New York on Thursday and met with an enthusiastic reception. Cabled reports declare that the famous conductor fairly lifted the splendid New York Orchestra off its feet in the first of three concerts he is giving there as the guest of Mr. Walter Damrosch, its own conductor. A large part of this success is undoubtedly due to Mr. Coates's popularity with the band members, who obviously took pleasure in giving him their best. At the conclusion of the concert they joined the audience in rendering a tumultuous ovation.

For his all-British programme, Mr. Coates chose a suite of his own, followed by Elgar's "Enigma" variations, and winding up with Dr Vaughan Williams's "London Symphony," played for the first time in the United States.

Mr. Frank Armstrong.

London musical circles will shortly suffer a great loss, as, in the near future, Mr. Frank Armstrong is leaving the Æolian Company in order to take up an important appointment as private organist to a gentleman who is himself keenly interested in matters musical. London will not altogether lose sight of this popular organist, however, as his employer wishes Mr. Armstrong still to give occasional recitals in town.

An International Conductor.

The son of a poor musician in one of the smaller towns of Northern Russia, Sergei Koussevitski, who is conducting a series of symphonic concerts at the Royal Albert Hall, the next being on Jan. 9, was forced to help his father to gain a living from the earliest days of his youth. At the age of thirteen he was touring up and down the provincial towns of Russia as an orchestral conductor of itinerant comic opera companies, and only when he was fourteen could he realise the dream of his life to become a pupil of the Moscow Conservatorium of Music.

His ambition was to be a violinist, but when he arrived at Moscow he found that there were no vacancies to be had for any of the classes save that of the contra-bass. He had no money to pay for tuition, and he took what was offered, but he put into the study of the unwieldy instrument so much love and so much ardour that two years later he appeared as soloist at one of the symphony concerts. This was the beginning of his international career, and in the words of the composer, Tanayeff—then the head of the Moscow Conservatorium—"Koussevitski lifted the Contra-Bass to the level of Paganini's fiddle." Koussevitski, who has only recently escaped from Russia, has since his stay in Paris already received offers to conduct in France, Italy, and Holland.

Enoch Saturday Concerts.

Mr. Landon Ronald has offered to conduct two movements of his arrangement of Bizet's "Suite L'Arlesienne," as well as the orchestral accompaniment of some of his new songs, to be sung by Mr. Walter Hyde at the Enoch Saturday afternoon concert on the 8th. Mr. Dan Godfrey is coming up specially from Bournemouth to conduct the remainder of the orchestral part of the programme.

MAURICE PIENA.

Maurice Piena advertises six new numbers to start the New Year with. "Slumber Song," by Translateur, for strings, wood wind and harmonium, has a flowing, warm melody, written alternately for violin and 'cello, and orchestrated for solo-'cello as well as solo-violin. The well-known "Serenade," by Translateur, orchestrated for salon orchestra with harmonium, is a pretty flowing number in three distinct movements, the first being carried out by the violins, changing to a quicker movement in the violins, and then changing to the minor, first of all introduced by the 'cellos, and then being repeated in a broader manner by the whole band, after which it returns to the original theme. "A Ball Night Vision," one of those beautiful intermezzos in waltz tempo, which are far too seldom used to-day, most musical directors making the mistake of thinking that anything written in three four time must be a commonplace number. On the contrary, it may be said that there exists a large number of very useful pieces in this tempo, although labelled Waltz Intermezzo, which are of the greatest value and utility. This particular number is very melodious, with a dainty, light middle movement. "Valse Choclo," on the celebrated melodies of Villoldo, is a very plaintive, slow theme, and is fully orchestrated with counter-melody throughout in the 'cello. This work is orchestrated for full orchestra, including harmonium. "Hearts That Are Weary," by Translateur, is another number that enters into this category. It is described as a dream waltz, and is useful for any haunting situation. These three numbers are very popular at dances. "The Death Knell," by Zurfluh, is one of those great productions which Maurice Piena offers from time to time. It is a very dramatic number, opening with a throb in the basses, which introduces the character of the number at once, and there is a middle movement rather on the flowing side very beautiful and tender, which works up to a dramatic climax, afterwards returning to the original dramatic, intense melody, the whole piece finishing up as it begins. This number, which is for full orchestra, including harmonium and two first violins, is offered at the attractive price of 1s. complete. Small orchestra can be obtained for 10d. Further particulars of Maurice Piena's catalogue and subscription can be had free on application.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.

N.S.L. CONCERTS.

WATFORD PALACE.

The Palace was crowded to its utmost capacity on Sunday by an enthusiastic audience. The chief attraction was the famous Palladium Octette, who commenced the evening with two selections—Ganne's march, "Pere la Victoire," and Fletcher's waltz, "Bas Masque"—which were both deservedly encored. Other contributions were excerpts from "Samson et Delilah," the enchanting "Indian Love Lyrics," and the popular one-step "Dardanella." Miss Dorothy Varick, for her clever impersonations at the piano, was enthusiastically recalled. In her usual well-known, fascinating style she just gave a delightful little song entitled "Perhaps," then a character study of a "London Newsboy," followed by a clever burlesque on "Poor Mary Jane: Blowed If I Know How They Do It," and "Then and Now." Another artist who was in great demand was Mr. Clay Thomas, with his humorous rendering of "Nothing to Say" and "Bellringer," the latter given as an encore. Later he gave Beron's "I'll Wait for You at Eventide." Mr. Gordon Marsh was in fine form with his burlesque on grand opera, and in his imitation of a conversation between a father and an inquisitive child. Miss Dorothy Colston's rich contralto voice was heard with delightful effect in "Sincerity" and "Parted," and Miss May Blyth was equally successful in her singing of Fletcher's "The Smile of Spring," and Grants' "Greeting of the Day." Mr. Sinclair Cole gave capital renderings of Russell's "As You Pass By" and "Until." Miss Lily Clover made a most efficient accompanist.

WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE.

The Sunday Evening Concert Society, attached to the Working Men's College, in Crowndale Road, seems to have tided over the difficult early period that all good-class popular concert-promoting societies have to get through somehow. At any rate, the Society is encouraged to hope so. After having run every concert at a loss for weeks, they found things suddenly taking a turn for the better. Last Sunday the hall was almost filled, and the appreciation shown was so great as to warrant the belief that every member of the audience will come again and again, asking for more.

Although the programme was distinctly "educative," there was nothing in it above the heads of "working" men and women. Everybody can understand and love a Haydn string quartet and Dvorak's "Nigger" quartet. And the applause that rewarded the efforts of the Philharmonic String Quartet (Messrs. Frederick Holding, Samuel Kutcher, Raymond Jeremy, and Cedric Sharpe) was by no means of the merely complimentary sort. There was an unmistakably hearty ring in it, particularly after the lovely Menuetto in the Haydn (Op. 77); and you could have heard that pin drop during the playing of the last p.p. bars of the Lento in the Dvorak.

In between the two quartets came Joseph Speaight's two pieces for string quartet, "Queen Mab Sleeps" and "Puck." "Puck" was encored. So was "The Bee's Wedding," which Miss Cecile Dixon played so neatly and fluently; and Miss Betty Jennings, the evening's singer, had to repeat Cedric Sharpe's "The Fairy Glade"—a charming English song, much better appreciated than the two French songs that went with it to form Miss Jennings' second group.

THE SUNDAY SMOKER.

Entertainment for every taste was provided at the Æolean Hall, which again held a large audience on Sunday. Not quite so many vocalists as usual, perhaps, but this was compensated for by the fact that the one singer present was the experienced Miss Sybil Goodchild, who proved, of course, a best in herself. That talented elocutionist, Mr. Wm. Redge, whose work we have before had occasion to praise, gave a spirited rendering of that epic of the Royal Engineers, "The Hell Gate of Soissons," and was subsequently heard to greater advantage still in Gilbert's "A Question of Identity." The solo instrumentalist was Miss Katie Goldsmith, a violiniste whose good technique had plenty of scope in Kreisler's "Sicilienne and Rigaudon," whilst Mr. Rupert O'Hea effectively ensured that the evening was not wanting in hearty laughter. Finally, Mr. Frank Armstrong presided at the organ, and gave his enthusiastic admirers a well-rendered selection of morceaux, in which the works of Tchaikovsky predominated.

EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS' SOIREE.

One of the events in the programme of the Educational Associations' annual conference is a soirée. This year it was held—on Monday—in the fine Clothworkers' Hall in Mincing-lane, by kind permission of the Company. Lord Burnham received the guests, who were entertained with a programme of music arranged by the Incorporated Society of Musicians. Mr. Orton Bradley, the Secretary of the Society's London branch, acting as Chairman, had to open proceedings with the announcement that the St. Cecilia Quartet could not appear because the chief contralto, "having sprained her ankle, was unable to sing." It was quaintly put, and everybody smiled, and so felt the disappointment less, especially as Mr. Bradley counteracted the effect of his bad news by bringing on Miss Zillhardt, an accomplished violoncellist, who played a couple of Percy Grainger's pieces to the general content. There was more string-playing later on. Miss Harriet Solly was heard in a movement from a violin and pianoforte sonata (with Mr. Bradley to play the pianoforte part) by an eighteenth century composer, Joseph Gibbs. And very much at home did the delightful old English "Air and Variations" sound in those surroundings—the original Clothworkers' Hall, built on that same site, dates from the first Charles' days. Another alteration in the programme went down to the account of another singer, Mr. Thos. Meux, who was "positively unable to appear"; but Mr. Charles Compton, tenor, proved a capital deputy. A sweet-voiced soprano, Miss Lillie Wormald, and Miss Palgrave-Turner, whom everybody was delighted to hear, both sang interesting groups of songs, and Mr. Charles Knowles, in fine form, was warmly encored for his rendering of Henschel's "Young Dietrich."

New Year's Night at Press Club.

It was the juveniles' night at the Press Club on Saturday, when some of the principals from "Aladdin" at the London Hippodrome, piloted by Mr. Will A. Bennet, entertained a hundred children of members. Miss Phyllis Dare sang her popular "Bubbles." Mr. Lupino Lane and Mr. Wallace Lupino were very amusing in their song and acrobatic dance, "Bruce and the Spider"; as also was Mr. Albert Darnley in his speciality, "I Do." "Mother Mine" was sweetly sung by Miss Mary Gibbs (understudy to Miss Phyllis Dare), and Miss Nellie Wallace (Widow Twankey) in her song, "The Proper Way to Sniff" added to the mirth. Mr. Morley Adams gave a conjuring entertainment, and the programme included a story by Mr. Horace Sanders.

A visit from Father Christmas, impersonated by Mr. Herbert Grover, completed the joy of the youthful assembly.

NEW VALSE SONG.

"You With the Wonderful Eyes," by Thos. H. Lewis, M.B.E., and Percival Newstead, belongs to the large and ever popular valse type of song; but not many are furnished with a prettier melody. The particular "you" of the title possesses a "wonderful smile" in addition, besides many desirable qualities—from a lover's point of view—which are fully described in verses, poetically above the average in merit. Chevalier and Morland, of Amersham, Bucks, are the publishers.

A BALLET TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

On New Year's Day, under the chairmanship of Mme. Adeline Genée, leading operatic dancers and teachers of ballet dancing met at the Grafton Galleries and agreed to form a society to be known as the Association of Teachers of Operatic Dancing of Great Britain.

Mme. Genée is the president, and the members of the first committee include Mme. Karsavina, Miss Phyllis Bedells, M. Espinosa, and Mme. Lucia Cormani. A syllabus of the elementary steps of correct ballet dancing has been drawn up, and all members of the profession who wish to join the Association will be required to pass examinations in technique. The first of these is to be held in May.

TAX ON PIANOS.

The municipal tax on musical instruments (writes our Paris correspondent) came into operation on Jan. 1, a New Year's gift for Art. Owners must now declare their piano, the rate being 30 frs. a year for "cottage" and harmoniums, and 60 frs. for "grand" pianos, organs, and mechanical orchestrions. Owners of more than one piano pay a double tax on each additional instrument, excepting music professors, who are liable for the rate of one piano, manufacturers, and dealers. The tax is to be operative for three years.

THE "BABES," PLYMOUTH.

The pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, is always regarded as very much more than a Plymouth event. People, even now when there are no special trains at excursion fares as in the old days, flock to it from all parts of Devon and Cornwall. There is every indication of their doing so in even greater numbers this year, because the transfer of last year's Drury Lane production, "Babes in the Wood," to Plymouth has captured popular fancy, and Mr. James Glover, Mr. Philip Braham, and Mr. Ivan Campbell, who are jointly responsible, have received many congratulations. Invented by Mr. Arthur Collins and Mr. Frank Dix, the pantomime has been written up to date by Mr. Ivan Campbell, the music is by Mr. Glover, and Mr. H. Simons is responsible for the lyrics, with additional numbers by Mr. Braham. The fine stage enables all the Drury Lane spectacular features to be reproduced and therefore previous efforts of this character are excelled. Exceptionally beautiful are the forest scenes; the Baron's banqueting hall and the market place are imposing; while the finale, "The Prince's Message," is finely evolved, the audience being inspired with demonstrative patriotic fervour. The costumes, by Attilio Corneli, are as gorgeous and artistic as the general mounting of the pantomime. The music catches on and the singing is good, and the work of the chorus evidences the most careful training.

Amid all the feast of colour and display, however, the story of "The Babes" is never obscured, and the producers are fortunate in having secured practically the whole of the clever "Buzz-Buzz" company to play it. Guy Fane and Jessie Hitter are an inimitable pair of Babes. They captivate the children with their mischievous pranks and entertain the elders with their caricatures of heavy melodrama and of international dances. The principal boy, Kathleen Gray, scores something of a triumph as Robin Hood, for which part her fine presence eminently fits her. She sings well, her principal successes being "Swanee," "Smith, Brown, Jones, and Robinson," and "Camp Fire." The substitution of "Devon" in the refrain of "Swanee' is especially popular. Maudie Olmar is a dainty Maid Marion. She has a winning personality, and sings charmingly, particularly in "Ud-Guz-Gazelum." As Will Scarlet, Edythe Howard plays confidently, and her singing of "Land of Dreams" and "Playing Second Fiddle" is excellent. Joan Wayland, as Poppy, is also good.

A feature of the comic side is the contrast in styles, which makes for success. Harold Montague scores all the time as Baron Badegge, his chief vocal hit being "Down Where the Water-lilies Grow." Cedric Percival's Winkle is full of life and quick-fire wit, and Bernard Ansell is an enterprising and versatile dame. Kenna Brothers, as The Dobbers, achieve results by methods peculiarly their own. Doris Holt is a charming premiere danseuse, and, with her six mascots, dances delightfully, while Madame Victor's Eight Mites and the Wallace Orton Quartette contribute enjoyable numbers. Mr William Gregory is musical director and Mr. Ivan Campbell producer.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT TORQUAY.

Mr. Charles G. Price has entrusted the production of the annual pantomime at the Pavilion, Torquay, this year to Mr. Ellis Slack, and his adaptation of the well-known story of "Dick Whittington" is a very bright and attractive one. The ten scenes are by Mr. F. Potts, and of these the most notable are Highgate Hill and the Palace. Mr. Harry Elliston, in addition to carrying out the arduous duties of the producer, himself appears as the Cook, and he infuses any amount of fun and jollity into the show. His discourses are marked by many new jokes, and his "Spoons" song with Mr. Wally Beadle brought down the house. Mr. Wally Beadle is well remembered here, and in the part of Idle Jack he has ample scope for his fund of humour; his original songs, "Mussels" and "Naughty Boy," created roars of laughter, and there was not a dull moment when he was on the stage. Mr. Harry Searle and Mr. Dan Cribb as the Captain and the Mate introduced a deal of amusing patter, and Mr. Billy Summers played the Cat very cleverly. Mr. Philip Golding as Fitzwarren was also excellent, and his rendering of "San Fari Ann" most amusing, whilst Mr. Ernest Hinton as the Emperor gave a fine rendering of "Farewell in the Desert."

Miss Eileen Bellamy's representation of the title rôle was one of the chief successes. She has a fine stage presence and a winning smile, and sings a number of good songs admirably. "Smith, Jones, Robinson and Brown" is her first, and this is followed later by "When You've Got What You Want, You Don't Want It," "Swanee," the haunting melody of which is soon caught up, being a great favourite. She also had a pretty duet with Alice (delightfully played by Miss Marjorie Prenton), "Underneath the Wishing Moon." Miss Doris Hurley, the Fairy, has a good song to her credit, entitled, "Three Roses," to which she does full justice.

RETURNED FROM THE RHINE.

Lionel King, the magical entertainer who has been entertaining the British troops on the Rhine, has now returned to England and resumed his concert engagements.

A notable event at the Æolian Hall on Jan. 12, is the first appearance in Great Britain of the Italian operatic tenor, Signor Bettino Cappelli, who is considered by his countrymen to be one of the greatest artists in the "Lang of Song." For years he has been chosen to head the list of artists in the most important operatic seasons given at the La Scala, Milan, in Rome, Florence, Naples, and other cities.

The Duke and Duchess of Chateau Thierry will be present at a children and grown-ups fancy dress dance at Caen Wood Towers, Hampstead-lane, on Saturday, in aid of the Great Northern Central Hospital, when the duchess will present the prizes for the best and most original costumes. Mlle. Ninette de Valois will give a display of dancing, and forty children (pupils of Miss Shotter) will take part in the proceedings, which will last from 3 to 9.30 p.m.

SWEDISH BALLET AT THE PALACE.

Quaint, beautiful and original describes the programme of the Swedish Ballet appearing at the Palace. The piece de resistance is, perhaps, the delightfully quaint, pretty and fanciful story of "Les Vierge's Folles," the bride attended by wise and foolish virgins, of whom the former attends the wedding ceremony and festivities, whilst the latter, who heeded no advice and did not shield their flaming lamps, are driven from the temple by angels, who bar their way. The story is most drolly and delightfully illustrated chorigraphically by Mdlle. Jenny Hassalquist, Jean Borlin, as the bridegroom, and the company, including M. Nils Ostman, as a musician.

"Maison des Fous," the music of which is by M. Viking Dahl, is a windblend of discordant harmony. The Madhouse of the world elucidates, according to M. Jean Borlin, the fact that in the eyes of others we are all more or less demented, in our tastes, inclinations, and manner of living. All the world in motley parades its idiosyncrasies of folly and wickedness, and innocence, overcome by the garish vulgarity and patience of the tinsel Prince, dies of sheer inability to live in such erotic atmosphere.

As the Prince in motley, M. Jean Borlin acts and dances with expression and emotional ability, and as outraged Innocence, Mdlle. Jenny Hasselqust is grace personified, andaptly expresses the horror of the situation. Mdlle. Carina Ari, as the woman with a mirror, Mdlle. Artrid Lindgren, as the woman with a fan, among others are excellent mimicing exponents of the terpsichorean art.

The splendid orchestra largely contributes to the success of the entertainment in a varied assortment of pieces of great merit, including "Fantasie Espagnoli."

"ALADDIN" AT BATH.

Fred Clements' production of "Aladdin" at the Theatre Royal has caught on with the public in no uncertain manner, crowded houses at both matinée and evening performances being the rule. Miss Mabel Hind, in the title-rôle, works with unflagging energy, and has to her credit two of the song successes in "Swanee" and "Bubbles." Bobby Hall, as Abanazar, is a comedian who quickly makes friends with those in front, and laughter reigns whenever he is on the stage. In his fun-making he is ably supported by Jay Highley as Widow Twankey; his ditty, sung to an old nursery tune, with patter, causes great hilarity. Gwen Highley is a pleasing Princess, her rendering of the pretty song-scena, "Go to Sleep, My Baby," in which she is assisted by six little dots, being a charming number. Pekoe has a shapely exponent in Ada Durham, and she gives successfully "Oh, What a Difference the Navy Means To Me," with its catchy air. Beatie Moore is a pleasing So-Shi. Gladys Beckley, as Electra, renders the ballad, "Just a Kiss" with acceptance. Old friends are the Valdo Bros., and as knockabouts they display plenty of pantomime humour, but it is their well-known acrobatic "motor-bus" speciality that wins them most of their deserved popularity. Vic Leopold, as Wishee-Washee, proves himself to be a capital song and dance artist in that taking number, "Tennessee." Little Emmie's wonderfully graceful toe-dancing is watched with pleasure, and to Pauline Rivers must be accorded praise for the skilful way she has not only trained this clever little lady, but also her 12 Sunbeams and the corps de ballet. Fred Clifford, as the Emperor, makes the most of his few chances, and displays his baritone voice to advantage in the ballad, "Within My Loving Arms"; as stage manager he also deserves praise. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Noel Vincent.

WILLING'S PRESS GUIDE.

For close upon half a century "Willing's Press Guide" has formed one of the most complete and reliable books of reference. The issue for 1921 contains a mass of carefully arranged information relating to the Press of the world. The alphabetical list of newspapers and periodicals, which occupies a considerable portion of the book, appears to be very complete, and will be found invaluable for ready reference. The pages devoted to "Titular Changes and Amalgamations" will also be found useful, and that interesting feature of the annual, the list of existing newspapers and periodicals of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries has been retained.

CARUSO'S HEALTH.

The illness of Signor Caruso has developed so seriously that last week it was found necessary to perform two operations upon him, a portion of one of the ribs being removed so that fluid could be drawn from the chest. This was the second operation within 24 hours for the same purpose. The famous tenor is suffering from suppurative pleurisy. Caruso's condition will remain serious until the fever is abated, and the possibility of complications from the lungs and bronchial tube has disappeared. There is no idea of a speedy convalescence, and it is quite unlikely that he will sing again in opera this year.

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CONCERT PARTIES AT WORK.

"Optimists."

Under the direction of Frank A. Terry, who contributes good comedy and eccentric dancing, Will Catlin presents the "Optimists" at Harry Leslie's Rusholme Pavilion, Manchester, this week. The party includes also Arthur Wilbey, comedian; Duggie Campbell, comedian and dancer; Cissie Douglas, soubrette and dancer; Jessie Crone, contralto; Gladys Marsden, soprano; and Tempest B. Clayton, at the piano. A well-arranged and entertaining programme is given.

"Brevity."

Large holiday audiences at the Assembly Rooms, Salisbury, have welcomed Mr. Richard Jerome's company, "Brevity," at this new and popular place of amusement, and they thoroughly deserved the support they secured. Miss Mavis French has a charming soprano voice, and received many encores; Miss Dorothy Lesleigh is a delightful comedienne; Miss Dora Raiemond, soubrette and dancer, put plenty of life and "go" into her turns; Mr. Hamilton Bryde has a fine baritone voice, and his song evoked great applause; Mr. Edgar Driver, comedian, was a host in himself; Mr. Tom E. Laune, light comedian and dancer, is very smart; and Master Bertram Phillips, the pianist, played with an easy and graceful touch, and gained much applause.

CONCERT PARTIES TOURING.

Arcadians.—Jan. 3, Victoria Pier, Blackpool.
Arcady.—Jan. 10, Redcar.
Catlin's Royal Pierrots.—Jan. 3, Leeds.
Coo-ees, The.—Jan. 3, Crewkerne.
Fanatics, The.—New Pavilion, Burnham-on-Sea (Resident Season).
Gay Gondoliers.—Jan. 3, Cinema, Abingdon.
Hobbies, The.—Jan. 3, New Pavilion, Morecambe.
Novelty.—Jan. 3, Aracdia, Colwyn Bay.
Optimists, The.—Jan. 3, Rusholme.
Pan.—Jan. 3, Leas Pav., Folkestone.
Pavilion Entertainers, The.—Jan. 3, Devonshire Park, Eastbourne.
Pedlers, The.—Jan. 3, Empire, Redcar.
Piquants, The.—Jan. 3, Hippo., Gillingham, Kent; 10, Bijou T., Rye.
Poppies, The.—Jan. 3, Pavilion, Penzance.
Pro Rata.—Jan. 3, Vincent's Hall, Camborne.
Puppets.—Jan. 3, Emp., Stony Stratford.
Quaintesques, The.—Jan. 3, Palace, Woking.
Qualities.—Jan. 3, Freshwater, I.O.W.
Red Musketeers, The.—Jan. 3, Public Hall, Beccles.
Rogues, The.—Jan. 3, Derby; 10, Whitley Bay.
Supremacy.—Jan. 3, Clarence Pier, Southsea.
Unconventional.—Jan. 3, Cinema, Abingdon.
Versatiles, The.—Jan. 3, Pavilion, Rye.

"THE CHRISTMAS STOCKING."

The special matinée in aid of the Ladies Nursing Institute last Saturday afternoon by the Players of Citizen House, Bath, was in every way a brilliant success. The house was crowded with a distinguished audience, who heartily acclaimed this entirely local production. It is a charming entertainment, with bright, simple dialogue, admirably befitting the pretty story of the kind-hearted woodcutter, Claus, who, by fairy influence, becomes King of the Trees in the Forest. At the close there were calls for the author, Miss de Reyes, and the producer, Miss Hope, and a speech of thanks by the former was made.

The acting by the principals of the long cast was a long way above the average of amateur performances, and the ability of the juveniles, particularly that of the two young people who played the twin brother and sister, was remarkable. The dancing of the children was another feature that showed how well they had been coached.

At the close thanks were expressed to Mr. W. S. Pearce for his kindness in lending the theatre and the personal interest he had taken in the production, and also his associates, Mr. Laing, the stage manager of the Palace, and Mr. Chas. Wallace, the assistant manager. Mr. Chas. Harrison, the resident musical director, composed and orchestrated the musical numbers, and he conducted with his usual care and discretion. In consequence of the numbers who were unable to gain admission, a further performance will take place on Saturday afternoon next, Mr. Pearce having generously placed the Palace at the disposal of the Citizen House Players to repeat the "fantasy," when the entire proceeds will be handed over to the Mayor of Bath's Hospital Fund.

BURNLEY ASSESSMENTS APPEAL.

Burnley Board of Guardians, on Dec. 30, approved of the Assessment Committee, appearing as respondents at the Quarter Sessions regarding appeals concerning the rating of 14 theatres and kinema halls in Burnley and Nelson districts; the rateable value of which totalled £4,636. The individual assessments vary from £100 to £800 rateable, the latter figure being for the Nelson Hippodrome.

THE SHOW THAT WILL BRING YOU LUCK FOR THE NEW YEAR.
SYDNEY SWAIN'S
"LIVE WIRES"
VACANT—JAN. 17 & 24.
Great Success last week Hippo., Bristol, deputising for Jack and Evelyn.
This—Market Hall, Gillingham, Dorset.
Next—N.A.C.B. Bijou Theatre, Swanage, Dorset.

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CONCERT PARTY & ENTERTAINMENT NOTES.

All-the-Year-Round Shows—The C.P. Harvest Time—A Revusical Comedy Success.

During the past few months we have devoted an extended space each week to matters of importance concerning concert party proprietors and artists. In our opinion wider and more interesting press representation was and is still due to a branch of the entertainment business which, although still young in years, has now grown to such large proportions. The concert party entertainment, although well known to holiday makers in the summer time, is not sufficiently in evidence during the other months of the year. There is without doubt a certain section of the public who would well support this class of entertainment all the year round if it were properly established and presented. Such is done at places like Leamington, Rusholme, Folkestone, Hull, Woking, Bedminster, Chester, Colwyn Bay, Eastbourne, Burton-on-Trent, and many other towns. The number is, however, limited, and far too small to support all the concert companies which are now forced to devote their attention to the summer alone. What is being done with such success at the towns mentioned could also be accomplished at hundreds of other places. Enterprise is what is needed. There are many public entertainment caterers who would exploit this new class of amusement were they sufficiently aware of the possibilities of good results. If Manchester is able to run a concert party show all the year round as it has done for so many years, surely Londoners and those living in other large cities and towns would provide sufficient support to justify the experiment.

The more publicity that can be given to this matter the better, and those who have glanced at our concert party columns must acknowledge that "The Era" has for some time been foremost in an endeavour to achieve this object. We may fairly claim that there is no other medium by which the requirements or the intersts of the concert party or entertainment profession could be better or more extensively advanced. We have offered exceptional facilities to those who care to make use of our columns for advertising purposes, and clients who have taken advantage of our offer have, we are glad to state, reaped considerable benefit.

Summer Prospects.

The harvest time of the C.P. is the summer. Now is the time to sow the seed in the shape of advertisement. We are perfectly aware that money is extremely tight just now, but to those who desire to advertise we say "send us a line and we will forward you full particulars regarding rates."

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking all those who have extended their support to us, and to say that we shall continue with unabated enthusiasm to devote our energies to the furtherance and betterment of the cause of the concert party proprietor, the artist, and the entertainer in these columns week by week.

We wish them one and all a prosperous new year, and may it make up for any deficiencies of 1920.

Revusical Comedy.

Messrs. Gane and Morley, Ltd., are ever to the fore in matters connected with the concert party world. They may well claim to be the leading firm in the whole business. Enterprise is the predominent characteristic of the firm, and happily their many ventures have been productive of the best results. Their latest venture is a revusical comedy in three acts, entitled "The Girl." An instantaneous and unequivocal success was the result of the presentation, the credit of which must be almost entirely given to Mr. Will Gane, who is responsible not only for the book, lyrics and music, but also the production. We have known Mr. Gane as a concert party comedian, dancer, pianist, and producer for many years, and have placed him in our estimation at the head of his profession. In his latest effort he has entirely eclipsed himself, and it is difficult to find words of praise sufficient to express our opinion of this most versatile artist, author and composer. The plot is an amusing one concerning two charming young ladies, each of the name of Phyllis. The music is tuneful and pretty. In fact of such a "catchy" description are many of the melodies that we shall probably very shortly hear them being sung, hummed and whistled everywhere we go. The lyrics are also cleverly written, humorous and witty without any suggestion of vulgarity, which so often mars an otherwise good revue.

As the leading character, Piccy Brown, Mr. Gane is the backbone of the show. The fun never flags all the way through, for Mr. Gane is here, there, and everywhere, full of gaiety and merriment, with which he seems to inspire all the rest of the company. Other leading artists in the production are Miss Alice Waldie, who is perfectly charming as one of the Miss Phyllises, and Miss Vera Clarke, who is nowhere behind as the other Miss Phyllis. Then there are Mr. Noel Pherns, Mr. Max Miller, Mr. Bern Hardy, Mr. H. E. Broughton, Miss Peggy French, Miss Kathleen Marsh, Miss Connie Moore, and Miss Madge Hayden. One and all shine in their respective characters, and word hard individually and collectively in making the entertainment one of the brightest and merriest of revues yet presented to the public. We congratulate the whole company, but especially Mr. Gane, on the wonderful success of "The Girl."

Orpheus Musical Society.

Lack of space has prevented us noticing the capital smoking concert given by the Orpheus Musical Society at Wimbledon Hill Hotel on Tuesday, 14th ult. The attendance was not quite so good as usual, but the entertainment was well up to the high standard established by this Society. Miss Joy Lynn proved a charming soprano in "Our World of Delight," "I Just Want You," and other songs. Miss Mollie Winter delighted with whistling solos and monologues. Mr. Cedric Miller and Mr. Will Gane supplied comedy songs and sketches, to the enthusiastic delight of the audience, and Mr. John Warren, who came straight from St. George's Hall for the purpose, was more mystifying than ever in his conjuring entertainment. Messrs. Joseph Wilson and Tom Clayton rendered some excellent duets, for which they were recalled time after time, and Mr. Percy Stanhope gave an amusing ventriloquial interlude. Mr. Harry Bamford, the pianist and accompanist, did his work to the satisfaction of all. He is certainly one of the finest pianists ever heard at the Orpheus. The next concert will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 11, when a strong programme will again be presented.

Concert Artists' Benevolent Association.

An extraordinary general meeting to confirm, or otherwise, alteration of Rules 1, 3, and 8, made at the meeting last month, will be held at St. George's Hall on Sunday, Jan. 9, at 5 p.m. sharp. The business meeting will be followed by the C.A.B.A.'s sixth "At home," at which Mr. Bransby Williams will preside.

It should be added that with the new constitution of the C.A.B.A. the financial year will be altered from Aug. 31 to Dec. 31, and members elected after Jan. 1 of this year will have to pay the enhanced rate. Subscriptions already paid up to Aug. 31 of this year will, however, hold good, and at the end of the year an adjustment will be made to bring all payments into line.

Real Live Wires.

Jack and Evelyn, being unable to appear on Tuesday night last week at Bristol Hippodrome, Sydney Swain's Live Wires were called upon to deputise and were an outstanding success, taking curtain after curtain at the finish of their performance. They were congratulated by all concerned upon their wonderful novelty show.

New Year Festivities.

Music and merriment were the keynotes of the New Year's Eve Gala Night at the Elysee Restaurant where, in addition to the orchestra and the solo dancer, Juanita, extra turns had been provided by the Newman Orchestral Agency. These included Miss Elsie Somes, soprano; Mr. Charles Jekyll, the well-known tenor; and Mr. Robert Mulvey, an excellent baritone, all of whom did well. From the same source came Miss Mary Pitcairn, and Lyon and Westaby, who shared the successes of the evening, the last named being an extremely clever pair of dancers, who contributed a variety of numbers, including their celebrated "Whisper Walk" dance, and are remaining at the Elysee for a fortnight. Miss Pitcairn is a versatile contralto, who, besides scoring in her ballad items—which included a charming new waltz song, "If You Could Come to Me," by Marc Anthony—brought down the house with her comedy and ragtime numbers, having to concede an extra turn in addition to a double encore. The programme concluded with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," led by the artists above named.

MUNICIPAL ORGAN RECITALS.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AVOIDED.

Hull Corporation has a sub-committee which is inquiring as to the possibility of arranging organ recitals in the City Hall without financial loss, and empowered the sub-committee to interview representatives of the musical societies and the Society of Organists. Now this sub-committee reports having had an offer from Mr. Walkden Wright offering to arrange weekly recitals by Mr. Harold Holman, without any financial responsibility to the corporation for one, two or three months. The committee has also had an offer from Mr. W. E. Hare to get Mr. Bernard Johnson (city organist of Nottingham), who had organised successful recitals in Nottingham, to interview the committee and give it his views as to the methods of instituting successful recitals. Subsequently, Mr. Johnson attended the committee and gave it the benefit of the method he had adopted in Nottingham to popularise organ recitals, and at the same time make them self-supporting and of educational value. Subjoined is a summary of Mr. Johnson's experience and advice:—

The Albert Hall, Nottingham, was capable of seating a 3,500 audience. The recitals were given on Sunday afternoons, and lasted one and a quarter hours. The admission was free, but a collection was taken which at first yielded about £5, but had steadily increased to an average of £35 for the present season, the highest collection being £42. Saturday night concerts were being tried; they had not yet caught hold, but they were being gradually built up.

Support.—Mr. Johnson did not cater for the social life of Nottingham, for, from the very beginning, for reasons which he explained, it was the poorer class who had given him support and helped him to make the recitals successful.

Choice of Music and Educational Talks.—He had found that the working-man—the man in the street, the ordinary citizen—desired the very best in music, and nothing short of the best would succeed. He (Mr. Johnson) took a composer's works, and in a talk to his audience he gave a brief resumé of the composer and his works, and explained with illustrations on the piano the construction of the sonata, concerto, or fugue he was to render on the organ, pointing out the passages for particular attention in listening to the work. In this way the men's interest was aroused, and they commenced to receive a musical education, and they now knew how an important musical work was built up. Another method he had adopted was to include in the programme a pianoforte concerto played by a pianist he engaged, the orchestral parts being played by him on the organ. This had proved very interesting to his audience. He did not include vocal items in his recitals. He was of the opinion that the success he had achieved was due to the educational side of the recitals.

In reply to the chairman as to the advice he would give to the committee on the matter of recitals, Mr. Johnson stated:—

1. He should not advise the appointment of a permanent organist now, as the season was too far advanced, and therefore the committee had some months to consider the course they should pursue.

2. He would be willing to assist in testing the interest of Hull people in organ recitals by offering to come over without charge for his services, and give, say, half a dozen recitals on the City Hall organ, adopting the same methods he used in Nottingham, on condition that he had a free hand in his arrangements, choice of music, length of programme, &c. A painist at a fee of four guineas would be required at each recital.

3. At the end of his recitals, if they had given sufficient sign of success, he would recommend the committee to appoint a permanent organist, and in doing so they must bear in mind that in the long run the best music played in the best way was necessary, and that the best man could not be obtained for a small salary, as the law of supply and demand held good in music. If the committee bore this in view and eventually appointed a first-class man, it did not seem too optimistic that he should easily earn £50 for a week end for 25 weeks in the year, i.e., the six winter months. Mr. Bernard Johnson impressed on the committee that in offering the committee his advice he had had no ulterior motive, but he was prompted by love of his art, and by his high regard for the city and its splendid organ, and that if the committee did decide to appoint an organist he would not be an applicant.

Subsequently the committee decided to accept Mr. Bernard Johnson's generous offer for six fortnightly recitals on the lines he suggests; that he be paid his out-of-pocket expenses for the visits he makes to Hull to give the recitals; and that any further remuneration to be paid to Mr. Johnson shall be in proportion to the financial success achieved.

After consulting the list of bookings of the City Hall, it was tentatively agreed that the recitals should take place on Monday evenings, Jan. 10 and 24, Feb. 7, 21, and 28, and Mar. 14.

Mr. Johnson specially mentioned that he would require the services of a pianist for the piano concertos at a fee of four guineas per concert, and the committee agreed to this.

It was also decided to make no charge for admission, but to have collections to defray the expenses.

"ALADDIN" AT THE ELEPHANT.

Mi-Ti-Hi, the Emperor of China ..... Steane Louch
Princess Badroulbadour ..... Flo Le Roy
Prince Pekoe ..... Adele Atman
So-Shi ..... Irene Engleheart
Electra ..... Jean Robey
Widow Twankey ..... Will Lovell
Abanazar ..... Will Harris
Koppah & Sloppah ..... Simple & Smart
Wishee-Washee ..... Roy Barbour
Aladdin ..... Daphne Joy

Mr. Fred Clements, who produces the second pantomime of the season for Mr. Barnard, has a very bright and merry show. Produced on Boxing Day at the Theatre Royal, Chatham, it scored an instantaneous success, and this was repeated in South London on Monday. Mr. William Holland is responsible for a witty book, and Messrs. Charles Pearson and Caffyn Baxter's music is melodious. The beautiful scenery by Mr. Alec Toole deserves a word of praise, especially the Cave of the Magic Lamp.

Miss Daphne Joy makes a sprightly and handsome Aladdin, and the principal girl is dainty Miss Flo Le Roy. Both artists were well provided with musical numbers, of which they made the most. Miss Daphne Joy scored in "Swanee," with a chorus, and also in a topical version of "Smith, Jones, Robinson and Brown." Miss Flo Le Roy was heard to much advantage in "Oh! What a Pal Was Mary." A fine, stalwart figure Mr. Steane Louch made of the impecunious Emperor, and sang in good style "I'm the Emperor." Mr. Will Lovell was a typical dame, his droll delivery of "All the Girls Are Knitting Jumpers" deserves mention. In a burlesque on "East Lynne," Will, as Lady Isabel, and Will Harris (an excellent Magician) as Little Willie, were very funny. Abundant merriment was the order when Simple and Smart (the Emperor's factotums), two clever knockabouts, were in evidence. A pleasing Electra was Miss Jean Robey, and Miss Irene Engleheart was a bright So-Shi. Miss Adela Atman (Prince Pekoe) and Roy Barbour (Wishee-Washee) completed a well-selected cast.

The specialities were particularly good. Noteworthy was the clever dancing and singing of The Six Pynkies; popular, too, was the clever turn of These Three Girls; and a clever and popular act was introduced by The Three Colnans.

The large and spirited chorus, and the pretty ballet of fairies, with Miss Irene Engleheart as an attractive première danseuse, all assisted in popularising Mr. Fred. Clements' fine production. Mention should be made of the admirable way in which Mr. James Birch controlled the augmented orchestra.

Major Harvey Bathhurst's great organ, and Miss Marie Ambrose, the dramatic soprano, are amongst the special attractions at the Ex-Service Men's Winter Carnival and Exhibition at the White City.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

The Benevolent Fund Festival—Canadian Combine Developments—American Successes for London—Bolton Theatre's New Directorate.

A.B.F. Festival.

Agreeable memories will be held of the Actors' Benevolent Fund Festival, which took the form last year of a dinner and dance at the Savoy, when the gathering, hitherto restricted to the sterner sex, included the leading ladies of the stage. The function will be repeated in the same form this year, and is fixed for Sunday, Feb. 6.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier will take the chair, and "star" tables, at which popular favourites will preside, will again be a feature of the festival. Speeches will be brief, and it is hoped that an extension of time will again be obtained so as to permit of a long dance.

Percy Hutchison and Canadian Combine.

Some of the achievements of Mr. Percy Hutchison in Canada have already been recorded in this column, but in an interview with a local paper the popular actor, who eclipsed all former successes with "A Pair of Sixes" at his theatre in York during Christmas week, gives more exhaustive details. Mr. Hutchison claims to hold the theatrical record of any English touring company in Canada. The tour, which was originally intended to occupy six weeks, extended to over 10 months, and in some places it was the first English company which had been seen for seven years. Commencing at Montreal, Mr. Hutchison and his company visited all the great cities and many of the smaller ones in Eastern Canada. They then proceeded direct to Western Canada, opening at the great and thriving city of Winnipeg, and thence on to Regina, Saskatoon, Moose Jaw, Medicine Hat, and on to the foot of the Rockies, at Calgary, Edmonton, &c. Having crossed the great mountains, they journeyed to Vancouver, British Columbia.

Having thus completed the tour from East to West, the company made their return visits on the homeward journey. So great was the success, and so enthusiastic the reception accorded, that after having crossed the Rockies again, Mr. Hutchison and his company were persuaded to return to Vancouver and Victoria. Thus they crossed the Rockies four times, and it was not without encountering exciting and thrilling incidents, including threatened engulfing by avalanches.

Mr. Hutchison referred with enthusiasm to a great Canadian combine by which it is possible for English companies to travel from Halifax to Vancouver, a distance of 3,000 miles, and visit over 100 cities under one booking. It is a movement under the title of Trans-Canadian Theatres, backed by Canadian capital, and Canadian brains. The chief object is to take out British "stars" and British plays, as in the past Canada has been compelled to look to New York for its entertainment.

With the object in view of procuring the best of British dramas, and the interest and help of the British actor-managers, Mr. Hutchison has associated himself with the Trans-Canadian Theatres project. Mr. George Driscoll, the president of the movement, is proceeding from Canada to York to discuss with Mr. Hutchison their plans for the future; for it is intended to place the best of English opera and drama before the Canadians.

Already Mr. Hutchison has sent "The Maid of the Mountains" out, the company being over 50 strong, and doing splendid business. Mr. Hutchison is also concerned in the building and promoting of new theatres in Canada, one of which opened at Edmonton, in Alberta. It is about twice the size of the Theatre Royal, York, and has taken exactly four and a half months to build.

New York Follies.

Mr. Gilbert Miller has received a communication from Mr. Flo Ziegfeld intimating his intention to send his original Follies company to London next June. Last week, at the New Amsterdam Theatre, Mr. Ziegfeld produced a new musical comedy by Guy Bolton and Clifford Grey. Originally called "Sally in Our Alley," the title has now been shortened to "Sally." The leading parts are taken by Miss Marilynn Miller and Mr. Leon Errol. Mr. Gilbert Miller has arranged to produce "Sally" in London next autumn, in conjunction with Mr. Ziegfeld.

West-End Jewish Repertory Theatre.

The originator of the Jewish Theatre shortly to be inaugurated in the West End is Mr. Paul Davidson, who has taken into partnership Mr. Ernest Rolls. They have already arranged to play 50 Jewish plays, a different piece each night, thus forming a repertory of Hebrew plays. The performance generally will be given in Hebrew, but occasional evenings will be devoted to Yiddish plays in English.

Letters have been received from Jewish actors in all parts of the world offering to come to London to appear. The season will open at the end of February with Lessing's "Nathan the Wise" at the theatre the name of which we are not at the moment permitted to divulge.

Mr. Davidson, who is the son of a Jewish Rabbi, has had an extensive career as an actor. He appeared with distinction in "The Jew," recently produced at the Strand, and also in the Jewish sketch, "The Daughters of Kem," produced the week before last. He has been chiefly associated with Dickens' characters, but prefers to play Jewish parts.

"Three's a Crowd" for London.

Mr. Bernard Hishin has definitely secured a West-end theatre for the introduction to London of "Three's a Crowd," which has scored a success in Blackpool, Leicester, and Brighton. All will wish Mr. Hishin good luck on his return to the managerial arena. The date of the London production is Jan. 31.

A Record "Tempest."

The cast for Miss Viola Tree's long-contemplated production of "The Tempest" at the Aldwych (after the run of "The Private Secretary") is a highly interesting one. The Prospero of Henry Ainley, the Ariel of Miss Winifred Barnes, the Ceres of Miss Tree, the Ferdinand of Mr. Lance Lister, Miss Kathleen Vaughan's Miranda, and Louis Calvert's Caliban should all come out finely. In short, Miss Tree looks like giving a record revival of the glorious play, which is usually regarded as the last that Shakespeare ever wrote.

The date of the revival of "The Tempest" depends somewhat upon the appeal of "The Private Secretary." At present that merry mixture is due to finish at the Aldwych in time for Miss Tree to start "The Tempest" on the 27th inst. But the Hawtrey piece is doing such enormous business there twice daily that arrangements may be made to continue the run for a week or two later than at present booked.

The Late J. F. Elliston.

If all provincial proprietors were like the late J. F. Elliston, the lot of the touring manager would be more agreeable. He it was, it will be remembered, who, a couple of years ago initiated in "The Era" the proposals for sectionising the country, with the object of minimising travelling.

His efforts to stage touring shows adequately were always apparent. He was particularly proud of the size of the stage of the Bolton Theatre Royal, one of the largest in the provinces, and he used to boast that there were exceedingly few, if any, travelling productions that he could not put on and have room to spare. Indeed, it is a fact that the whole of the stage has only once been used, and that was for the transformation scene in one of his own pantomimes. On that occasion the back cloth was actually hung on the wall at the back of the stage.

We are informed that Mr. W. R. Bleakley, the present chairman of directors, is to be the new managing director of the Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd., and he will take over all Mr. Elliston's duties. Mr. Harry Kenyon, who was for 17½ years manager of the Grand Theatre, is joining the board of directors.

Mrs. H. A. Meymott wishes to express through our columns her gratitude to all who have extended their sympathy to her on the death of her father, the late Mr. J. F. Elliston, of Bolton, and for the beautiful floral tributes sent. They have been so numerous that it would be impossible to thank them all individually, and she hopes they will accept this expression of her appreciation.

Tom Titt's Apologia.

This week Tom Titt deals with Lily Long, who is responsible for so much merriment as the Baroness in "Cinderella" at Covent Garden. Tom Titt ventures, further, to justify his ruthlessness with regard to his victims. The more fantastic a caricature, he declares, the more it should surprise us with the absurdity of its likeness to the original. In the case of Miss Lily Long she seems to play a huge joke on herself by deliberately adopting fantastic attitudes, and though they are grotesque in the extreme yet it is the extreme of cleverness that she is able to convince the thousands who know her privately how unlike her own stage caricatures she really is.

The Charley's Aunt Club.

Arrangements have now been concluded for the Annual Social gathering of the "Charley's Aunt" Club, which will be held at the Aldwych Theatre on Sunday next, January 9, at 8 o'clock precisely. All those members who have not yet heard from the Hon. Secretary are requested to communicate with Mr. J. R. Cranford, Prince's Theatre, Shaftesbury-ave., W.C. 2.

Cochran's Lucky Day.

Mr. Charles Cochran declares that Friday was always a lucky day to him, and shows his belief by fixing upon Friday next for the opening of the New Oxford Theatre with "The League of Notions." Take notice that on that auspicious occasion your stall will cost you 24s.!

The Old Vic.

Sheridan's "School for Scandal," which proved so popular last October at the Old Vic., will be repeated next week. Six performances being given in all. Bizet's "Carmen" will be presented on Thursday and Saturday evenings.

"Daniel" at the St. James's.

"Peter Pan" is holding court twice daily at the St. James's. About the middle of January Mr. Gilbert Miller will place M. Verneuil's "Daniel" in the evening bill at the St. James's. An important engagement for this production is that of Miss Alexandra Carlisle for the rôle of Marguerite Arnault.

The "Mystery" Violinist.

It has been arranged that the "Mystery" violinist, whose playing in Oxford-street for the unemployed attracted notice during holiday week, shall play during the Act 2—3 interval of "The Private Secretary" at the Aldwych Theatre this (Wednesday) afternoon, and every afternoon until further notice. Authorised unemployed collectors will stand in the foyer at the close of each matinée performance.

The "Mystery" man's repertoire will include the well-known "Ronde Caprizzioso" of Saint-Saens, Kreisler's "Caprice Viennise," and a concert arrangement of Chopin's Nocturne in E flat.

"Lumber Love."

Keith Prowse have just secured for immediate publication a comedy with music entitled "Lumber Love," which is described as "a beginning and two acts." The music has been composed by Emmett Adams and Berté Adams, and the book and lyrics are by Leslie Stiles. The scene is laid in Canada, and we learn that a definite endeavour has been made to depart from the customary form of musical comedy.

O'Mara Christmas Season.

The O'Mara Opera Co. opened their first Christmas season in Liverpool at the Shakespeare Theatre on Boxing Day, and the first week's business broke all previous records. The theatre has been crowded at every performance, and the advance booking is phenomenal. The entire season will be 10 weeks, and the repertoire embraces 22 operas—ranging from Puccini to Mozart.

Lodgings Scarce at Hanley.

The utmost difficulty was experienced last week by the members of the "Red Riding Hood" and "Dick Whittington" pantomime companies, appearing respectively at the Royal and Grand Theatres, Hanley, in finding lodging accommodation The usual houses were unable to cater for them all, and so pressing was the situation that a public appeal was made on their behalf to residents who might be able to find room for them. None of the performers found themselves out in the street, but many of them had to crowd together, with much consequent discomfort.

"The Piccadilly Puritan."

A new comedy by Lechmere Worrall, entitled "The Piccadilly Puritan," will be produced by Messrs. Brayton and Hunter in conjunction with Mr. Archibald Forbes, at the West Pier Theatre, Brighton, on Monday. The keynote of the play, which is founded on the popular novel by Gertie S. Wentworth James, is that, nobody—not even a mother—can give a man a marriage reference; and it is on this assumption that the heroine sets out to test "The" man who is the brother of her greatest friend. That part is played by Mr. Henry C. Hewitt, and the rôle of the heroine is entrusted to Miss Doreen Whitton. The cast also includes Miss Gladys Calthrop, Miss Marie Ault, Miss Denzil Mather, Miss Dorothy Lart, Mr. John Trafford, Miss Lillian Stanley, and Miss Joyce Hoyle.

New Theatre, Cambridge.

Greatly improved seating accommodation has been provided at the New Theatre, Cambridge, alterations having been made both in the pit and gallery. In the pit have been placed comfortable tip-up seats, which can now be reserved. The system of booking is exactly similar to that for the stalls and circle—a week in advance.

Patrons of the pit are permitted to use the smoking-rooms, which have hitherto been available only to the occupants of the stalls. Owing to the sharp rake it was found impossible to place, as was intended, tip-up seats in the gallery, but the next-best thing has been done—the seats have been made comfortable by having backs put to them and also upholstered. The whole of this work of improvement has been carried out by the New Theatre's own staff.

Birkenhead Theatre's Farewell.

Impressive scenes marked the closing on Saturday night of the Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, which is shortly to be transformed into a picture house. The theatre was crowded to its utmost capacity, and after the curtain had rung down on the closing scenes of Edward Sheldon's play, "Romance," the curtain again ascended, disclosing on the stage the Mayor and Mayoress (Mr. Luke Lees and Miss Dorothy Lees), Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Kelly, Alderman E. G. Mason, and Mr. G. F. Lees.

The Mayor said they all deplored the fact that the Theatre Royal would cease to be a legitimate theatre, and that in that sense Mr. Kelly was severing himself from the theatrical life in the town.

Alderman Mason observed that it was hard to say good-bye to old friends and old associations. Mr. Kelly and his theatre had become old friends to Birkenhead, and were really part and parcel of its history. Whatever the future might hold in regard to the theatre, it could not hope to vie with the great and sincere regard with which it was held as a legitimate theatre. Although Mr. Kelly was severing his connection with the theatre he was not leaving the town, and they hoped he would still be associated with the various charitable organisations in the town.

Mr. W. W. Kelly, who was given a cordial reception, said he first took over the theatre twenty-three years ago, and he found it a great wrench to give it up now. On his arrival in the town he was received with affection, and he thanked the people of Birkenhead for the support they had given him. He had endeavoured to provide them with the best productions. He paid a warm compliment to Mr. D. J. Clarke for the manner in which he had catered for the entertainment of the people in his variety theatres, and remarked that no town had been better served both from that standpoint and in legitimate productions than had Birkenhead. Although he preferred plays produced by actors and actresses on the stage, he realised that cinemas were taking the place of the theatres, and when that building was opened as a picture house there would be four such places within a hundred yards.

Mrs. Kelly, who spoke with considerable emotion, also expressed her regret, and observed that during all the years she had acted, in no town had she been received more courteously and with greater appreciation than in Birkenhead. "The little boys in the gallery have loved me," she remarked, "and the gentlemen in the stalls. The ladies—well, perhaps, the ladies have not loved me so much; but you have all been good to me."

THE NEW ACTOR-KNIGHT.

MARTIN HARVEY HONOURED.

Little more than a week after Martin Harvey sailed for Canada comes the news that he has been given the honour of knighthood, and with the congratulations that will be wafted across the seas will be coupled the conviction that no more worthy recipient of the distinction could have been selected. Martin Harvey, it may be recalled, had his chief training in the company of the first actor-knight, and it is fitting that after so many years of honourable service to the stage he should be numbered among the band of actors that now enjoy the distinction.

Mr. Harvey made his first appearance at the age of 14, at the Court Theatre, in the one-act farce, "To Parents and Guardians." Shortly afterwards he joined a touring company, playing "Betsy." It was just a

SIR J. MARTIN HARVEY.

year later that he became a member of Henry Irving's company at the Lyceum, where he remained for 14 years. After many engagements at West End theatres, in January, 1899, he entered into management with "The Only Way," with which he gained a triumph at the Lyceum, London, and at other theatres, and continued throughout the country. Among subsequent productions the most notable are "A Cigarette Maker's Romance," "The Breed of the Treshams," "Hamlet," "The Corsican Brothers," "Œdipus Rex" at Covent Garden, "The Taming of the Shrew," and Maeterlinck's war play, "The Burgomaster of Stilemond." He married early in life Miss N. de Silva, who has occupied the position of leading actress in his company.

Mr. Harvey's work for the Red Cross throughout the war, recorded week by week in these columns, was incalculable, and by his exertions and those of Mrs. Harvey he must have raised thousands of pounds for the cause. During the war he was made an hon. lieutenant of the Legion of Frontiersmen for his services in recruiting, and gave entertainments and lectures to troops in France.

In offering our hearty congratulations to the knight-elect and his lady we feel we are voicing the sentiments of the whole of the profession.

NEW THEATRE STAFF DINNER.

A very enjoyable evening was spent at the Horseshoe Hotel, Tottenham Court-road, on Sunday last, when the behind-the-curtain staff of the New Theatre and friends, to the number of 150, at the invitation of Mr. Matheson Lang, sat down to a well-served dinner. Subsequently a thoroughly entertaining programme of songs, humorous and sentimental, varied by instrumental items, was gone through.

With but one exception, that of the non-stop pianist of Croydon, Albert Kemp, who acted as accompanist, domestic talent was relied upon, and in more than one instance unsuspected ability was revealed. This was notably so in the case of George Grafton, who kept the room in a roar for a good twenty minutes with his really witty sallies based on the staff nomenclature; Albert Jones with his comic songs; and G. Morgan, H. Burdick, and Albert Newton with their popular ballads. Philip Cathie, the New Theatre's well-known conductor and soloist, brought his Stradivarius with him, and played, as he always does, exquisitely.

Mr. Matheson Lang, in replying to the toast of his health, after paying a tribute to the loyalty and ability of the staff, told some amusing stories of the various theatre staffs he had encountered in his world tours, and brought his speech to a close by the reading of a poetical tribute to stage hands sent to him by Miss Dorothy Holmes-Gore.

Among those present were G. Major Cooke, Mr. Lang's popular business manager, A. W. Tyrer, the stage director, A. Clunes, stage manager, and Horton Cooper, the veteran actor, who has been in the cast of so many of Matheson Lang's productions.

An Ideal Dick.

Warm commendation is being secured by Miss Eileen Bellamy in the title-rôle of Mr. W. Ellis Slack's "Dick Whittington" company, which is this week at the Pavilion, Torquay. This Dick has the sunniest of smiles and makes an ideal wooer, her love-making being so convincingly done that it is hard to realise that it is make-believe.

A Startling Stage Story.

"When God Takes the Paint Off!" is the sensational name of a strange and startling story of four famous world-characters—namely, Clown, Pantaloon, Harlequin and Columbine. The narrative—a poignant and pathetic affair published in the current issue of the "Graphic,' is by the well-known journalist and dramatic critic, Hannen Swaffer. After this strong stage story we shall expect H. S. to come out as a dramatist!

"The Aunt."

"Charley's Aunt," which "all concerned" generally call "The Aunt," is doing phenomenal twice-daily business at the Prince's, big as that theatre's auditorium is.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION MATTERS.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Subscriptions and Levies.

When sending subscriptions for 1921 members, in order to help the office, should make a point of forwarding their star card of membership for 1920 for cancellation. Members with star cards who have not purchased extra stamps should forward the amount of 6s. for 1920 and 32s. for 1921, making a total of 38s.

Election of New Council.

All members should receive a copy of the "Actor" this week, in which will be enclosed a ballot paper for the election of the new Council, and they should fill in same according to instructions contained therein, and return to the office immediately. The ballot will be closed at 12 noon on Monday, Jan. 17, and the result will be announced on Jan. 27 at the latest.

Annual General Meeting.

The annual general meeting will be held at the Prince of Wales' Theatre on Sunday, Jan. 30, at 3 o'clock; doors open at 2.30 p.m. Every member should make a point of attending, as matters of the utmost importance will be discussed. The agenda will be published next week.

All Risks Policy, 1921.

It has been found impossible to renew the policy covering loss from any cause whatever, but every effort is being made to obtain a policy with as wide a cover as possible.

Bogus Managers.

Members and others are earnestly requested to send fullest particulars to the Association concerning any bogus manager who may come to their notice.

Re Dangerous Lights in Cinema Studios.

A special meeting of the House of Commons Committee on the Causes and Prevention of Blindness will be held at the end of January, and any facts concerning the effect of dangerous lights in studios upon the sight of members and others should be sent without delay to 32, Regent-street.

ALFRED LUGG,
General Secretary.

THE NEW COUNCIL.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Sir,—As a member of the present Council I recognise, not only the difficulties of the actor in the present crisis, but the difficulties also of many managers, who are quite willing to deal fairly with us if all other managers were made to fall into line.

It is the members of the A.A. alone who can force them to do so. If only all would pull together, we should soon reach the object for which we are fighting, but while those outside the union reap the benefits for which we strive, and our own members fail us in our fight, our cause is weakened. Let members and Council stand together firm in their resolve to obtain for, even the humblest member in our ranks, the means to live in decency and dignity, and we shall win.

I offer myself for re-election, and append the principles for which, if elected, I should fight:—

1. A week's work to consist of six performances.
2. Full payment for all matinées.
3. Double pay for all Sunday rehearsals.
4. Payment for all rehearsals prior to opening.
5. 50 per cent. increase on minimum salary for twice-nightly performances.
6. All costumes, tights, shoes, wigs, &c., to be found by the management.
7. All contracts to be made out for once nightly.
8. All joining fares to be paid by the management, and return fare to London, on conclusion of tour, or if engagement is terminated by the management.
9. One contract for London and provinces.
10. All engagements to be for "run" or length of the tour, to be terminated only for real incompetence, misbehaviour, or by mutual agreement.
11. Stock, repertory, trial weeks, or pantomime to be treated as special engagement.
12. An immediate militant policy, such as the boycott.—Yours sincerely,

ISABEL BERESFORD.

30, Hogarth-road, Earl's Court, Jan. 2.

ASSOCIATION OF TOURING MANAGERS.

A general meeting of the Touring Managers' Association was held on Friday at the offices, Shaftesbury-avenue, Mr. Robert Macdonald (chairman) presiding. There were also present: Messrs. H. V. Neilson, Herbert Ralland, Hubert Woodward, Harry C. Robinson, W. V. Garrod, J. Forbes Knowles, Charles Russ, Walter Howard, E. Carlton Wallace, Chas. H. Williams, J. Edward Whitty, Douglas Miller, Guyton Heath, Leslie Moreton, Herbert Shelley, Leon Trood, Jack Goodson, and Frank Weathersby. Associate members: Messrs. C. B. Benjamin, Louis Karpe, W. A. Seymour, Alfred de Frece, hon. solicitor, and Louis Casson, secretary.

Travelling in Ireland.

The secretary presented his report for the month of December.

A letter was read from the A.A. enclosing a letter from the Chief Secretary's office, Dublin Castle, with reference to artists visiting Ireland, and stating that there was no reason why touring companies should not visit that country. The only result of martial law being in force was that there might be some little inconvenience experienced.

Question of Variation.

The question of variation being made in the terms of the Standard Contract to individual members came up for discussion, and the meeting was unanimously of opinion that no variation whatever should be made in the case of any manager, but that the Standard Contract should be complied with and kept to exactly as drawn up.

A proposal to this effect was carried unanimously.

Proposed Revision Deferred.

A letter from the A.A. was read having reference to the question of discussing the revision of certain clauses in the Standard Contract, but as there are many managers outside the Association who are not yet using the Standard Contract, it was felt that such a discussion would be much more profitable when the contract can be equally applied to all managers, and not confined only to members of the Association.

Accommodation for Touring Managers.

A reference from the Associates' members section was presented dealing with the question of the entire lack of accommodation at the vast majority of provincial theatres for touring managers. It was pointed out that in a large number of theatres the only accommodation was a dirty bill-room or a table in the corner of a bar, and that no acting manager could be expected to carry out the business arrangements of a company satisfactorily under conditions such as these.

The matter was referred to the Theatrical Managers' Association, whose assistance was asked in seeing whether improvements could be made in this direction.

New Members.

The following gentlemen came up for election as members of the Association: Messrs. W. Payne Seddon, B. Mainwaring-Dunston, and Andrew Melville. Associate Members: Messrs. Thos. Courtice, Arthur Howard, Gordon Starkey, Eric G. Mewrie, A. Gifford Stacey, Edward Taylor, L. Stuart Fergusson, all of whom were duly elected.

The Gaiety, Manchester, Sale.

The latest information in reference to the sale of the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, is that the purchaser, Mr. Abe Hollander, is willing to enter into any scheme for the continuance of the theatre on legitimate lines, and would accept £40,000, the balance of purchase price to remain on mortgage. He would also take an active and financial interest in developing the theatre as a home of drama, repertory or otherwise. There is a strong feeling among Manchester playgoers, writes our correspondent, that the Gaiety Theatre should be retained for drama, but whether it is a £40,000 strong feeling or not remains to be seen.

MODEL SCENERY.

INTERESTING EXHIBITION.

By the invitation of Messrs. Cecil Barth and Grahame Herington, a small company ofl adies and gentlemen witnessed at the offices of the Theatrical Managers' Association, Shaftesbury-avenue, on Monday afternoon, an exhibition of model scenery. The exhibitor was Mr. C. H. Myddelton Evans, whose construction of two model stages, with all the lighting arrangements complete, displayed much ingenuity. Those present, whose knowledge of the technical side of stage production rendered them qualified judges, were loud in their praise of Mr. Evans's model scenery, and even those who were not so well able to pronounce judgment from the technical point of view, were delighted with a very interesting and quite charming exhibition. Altogether, a dozen sets were shown on the two neatly constructed model stages. Amongst the most striking of these sets were garden on the hill, an Italian church, a Cornish fishing village, which Mr. Evans pointed out might well be the scene of an elopement in a play, an oak room, a Gothic church, a corner in Venice, an Eastern scene, and Italian loggias. Another noteworthy scene was some typical suburban gardens, one of these being a replica in miniature of Mr. Grahame Herington's own garden. The lighting effects so cleverly contrived by Mr. Evans deserve special mention, displaying to perfection the several scenes under varied lights. It was explained by Mr. Cecil Barth that the visitors were witnessing a show that was in the nature of an experiment, the object being to bring about an important improvement in our stage scenery.

THE LATE J. F. ELLISTON.

The remains of the late J. F. Elliston, whose death we announced in our last issue, were laid to rest beside those of his late wife in Southport Cemetery on Tuesday, the 28th ult. Three carriages laden with wreaths preceded the hearse, and following it came coaches containing the family mourners, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Meymott (son-in-law and daughter), Mr. James Elliston (son), and Mrs. Swift (daughter); Mr. Swift, jun., and Misses Gladys and Mabel Swift (grandchildren); the directors of the Bolton Theatres and Entertainments Co., Ltd., Messrs. W. R. Bleakley (chairman), J. Ward, and J. Thornley, J. Carter (secretary), and the managers of the three theatres, Messrs. John Moncur, A. Booth, and F. Shelley. Behind these walked representatives of the staffs of the theatres. At the graveside, in addition to the Bolton mourners were Messrs. W. W. Kelly (Theatrical Managers' Association), Alfred Denville (Touring Managers' Association), Ernest Dottridge, and A. Henry-Jones.

The floral tributes included wreaths from the Directors of the Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; the Combined Staffs and the Combined Orchestras of the three theatres, the Bolton Dramatic Society, the Bolton Amateur Operatic Society, Mr. Ernest Dottridge (the Oldham theatres), Mr. W. W. Kelly, Messrs. Jazon and Montgomery, the Provincial Entertainment Proprietors' and Managers' Association, Mr. Bert Feldman, and Mr. George Minshull (of the Howard and Wyndham Theatres).

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ON THE ROAD.

[Will Managers kindly send in their Tour Lists for insertion in "On the Road" by Monday morning in each week?]

PLAYS.

Afgar.—Jan. 3, Emp., Penge.
Afgar.—Jan. 3, Hip., Aldershot; 10, T.R., Cheltenham.
Beverley (Hilda) Rep. Co.—Jan. 3, P.H., Appledore.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Jan. 3, Alex., Hull; 10, Alex., Hull.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Jan. 3, Grand, Blackburn; 10, O.H., Bury.
Carl Rosa Opera Co. (O. Section).—Jan. 3, O.H., Buxton; 10, Grand, Colwyn Bay.
Christmas Dream.—Jan. 3 and 10, W.G., New Brighton.
Chu Chin Chow (Pink).—Jan. 3, Grand, Swansea; 10, T.R., Barry.
Circus Queen.—Jan. 3, Emp., Ardwick, Manchester.
Corentz and Heather Rep. Co.—Jan. 3, Palace, Ashington.
Dobell (W. L.) Rep. Co.—Jan. 3, Town Hall, Newry; 10, Whitworth Hall, Drogheda.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co. — Jan. 3, O.H., Manchester; 10, New, Cambridge.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co. — Jan. 3, O.H., Blackpool; 10, O.H., Southport.
Forbes-Robertson Co., Frank. — Jan. 3, O.H., Bridlington.
Hathaway Baron Rep. Co.—Jan. 3, T.R., Crook; 10, Globe, Consett.
Her Bridal Night.—Jan. 10, County, Shrewsbury.
Hill-Mitchelson Rep. Co. — Season, T.R., Leicester.
His Little Widows. — Jan. 3, Hip., Huddersfield; 10, Hip., Devonport.
Home of the Fairies.—Jan. 3, Pav., Ayr.
Ignorance.—Jan. 3, Palace, Gloucester.
Irene (Butt).—Jan. 3, P.O.W., Birmingham; 10, P.O.W., Birmingham.
Irene (Macdonald & Young North Co.).—Jan. 3, T.R., Halifax; 10, T.R., Bolton.
Kasrac and Brown (Rep.).—Jan. 3, Falmouth and St. Austell; 10, Newquay and Launceston.
Kimberley and Clyde Rep. Co.—Jan. 3, Emp., Aberdare; 10, Emp., Mountain Ash.
Kinema Kid.—Jan. 3, Hippo., Ellesmere Port.
(K)Night of the Garter.—Jan. 3, W.H., Mountain Ash; 10, Pal., Llanelly.
Lawrence (Leonard) Rep. Co. — Jan. 3, Cleator Moor.
Lilac Domino (Macdonald & Young). — Jan. 3, Hip., Darlington; 10, T.R., Dewsbury.
Little Dutch Girl (Butt).—Jan. 3, King's, Glasgow; 10, King's, Glasgow.
Maid of the Mountains (Macdonald & Young North Co.).—Jan. 3, Palace, Ramsgate; 10, Palace, Maidstone.
Maid of the Mountains (Macdonald & Young's South Co.).—Jan. 3, Sandonia T., Stafford (3), New, Boston (3).
Maude (Winifred) Rep. Co.—Jan. 3, Th., Morpeth; 10, Easington, Durham.
Melting Pot.—Jan. 3, T.R., Norwich.
Mr. Pim Passes By (Dudley Stuart).—Jan. 10, T.R., Norwich.
My Old Dutch (Chevalier).—Jan. 3, Emp., Holborn.
Oh, Joy!—Jan. 3, T.R., Loughboro'; 10, Grand, Halifax.
Oh! Betsy.—Jan. 3, Hip., Wrexham; 10, Hip., Dover.
O'Mara Opera Co.—Jan. 3, Shakespeare, Liverpool.
Osmond (Mrs. Fred) Co. — Jan. 3, T.R., Macclesfield; 10, G., Doncaster.
Our Peg (North). — Jan. 3, O.H., Scarborough; 10, Court, Wigan.
Our Peg (South).—Jan. 3, Pleasure Gardens, Folkestone; 10, Grand, Swansea.
Paddy the Next Best Thing (Red).—Jan. 3, New, Boston (3), Pal., Wellingboro' (3); 10, Pal., Gloucester.
Pair of Sixes.—Jan. 3, P.O.W., Grimsby.
Quaker Girl.—Jan. 3, Pal., Tynemouth; 10, O.H., Burnley.
Ridding (John).—Jan. 3, T.R., Blyth; 10, Vic., West Stanley.
Rose of Araby.—Jan. 3, O.H., Tunbridge Wells; 10, D.P., Eastbourne.
Ruined Lady.—Jan. 3, O.H., Southport; 10, Hip., Rugby.
Scandal.—Jan. 3, W.P., Brighton.
Shelley (Herbert) Rep. Co.—Jan. 3, New Hall, Bargoed.
Should a Husband Forgive?—Jan. 3, T.R., Macclesfield; 10, G., Doncaster.
Sign of the Cross.—Jan. 3, T.R., North Shields; 10, T.R., Whitehaven.
Silver King.—Jan. 3, South Shields; 10, Hip., Richmond.
Sons of the Sea.—Jan. 3, Emp., Sunderland.
Sybil (Geo. Edwardes).—Jan. 3, Prince's, Manchester; 10, Prince's, Manchester.
Three Weeks.—Jan. 3, Emp., Preston; 10, T.R., Hyde.
Tilly of Bloomsbury.—Jan. 3, T.R., Windsor; 10, G., Lancaster.
Toto (Mark Blow).—Jan. 3, O.H., Burton-on-Trent; 10, O.H., Kidderminster.
Who's Hooper?—Jan. 3, Lyc., Ipswich.
Young Person in Pink. — Jan. 10, O.H., Coventry.

REVUES.

Dardanella.—Jan. 3, Hip., Woolwich; 10, Emp., Croydon.
Dream Girl.—Jan. 3, Alh., Barnsley; 10, Hippo., Leigh.
Flashes.—Jan. 3, Emp., Wolverhampton.
Great Scott.—Jan. 3, Hip., Chesterfield.
Happy Island.—Jan. 10, Hip., Cannock.
Heads or Tails.—Jan. 3, Galashiels; 10, Methil.
How Surprising.—Jan. 3, Olympia, Bulwell.
Jack in the Box.—Jan. 3, Hip., Bolton; 10, Col., Long Eaton.
Jingles.—Jan. 3, Emp., Finsbury Park.
Moon Maiden.—Jan. 3, G., Lancaster; 10, R., Barrow.
Mumming Birds.—Jan. 3, Pal., Euston.
Nothing Doing.—Jan. 10, Palace, Scunthorpe.
Oh! Laugh.—Jan. 3, G., Falkirk; 10, Emp., Barnsley.
Passing Show of 1921.—Jan. 3, Emp., Edinburgh.
Patches.—Jan. 3, Hip., Brighton; 10, Hip., Southend.
Pretty Peggy.—Jan. 3, Emp., Croydon.
Spick and Span.—Jan. 3, South Wales; 10, South Wales.
Splinters of 1921.—Jan. 3, Hip., Derby; 10, Grand, Luton.
Sweet Fanny Adams.—Jan. 3, G., Stockton-on-Tees; 10, Pal., Bradford.
Whirls and Girls.—Jan. 3, Pavilion, Leicester.

PANTOMIMES.

Aladdin (Bransgrove).—Jan. 3, Hip., Willesden.
Aladdin (Clements).—Jan. 3, T.R., Bath; 10, T.R., Bath.
Aladdin (Clare). — Jan. 3, Olym., West Bromwich.
Aladdin (Jazon and Montgomery).—Jan. 3, Osbourne, Manchester; 10, Hip., Preston.
Aladdin (Perci Leonards).—Jan. 3, Royal, Barnsley; 10, Hip., Chesterfield.
Aladdin (Neiman).—Jan. 3, Pal., Watford.
Aladdin (Reliable Enterprises). — Jan. 3, Emp., Hackney; 10, Emp., Shepherd's Bush.
Babes in the Wood (Bannister Howard).—Jan. 3, T.R., York.
Babes in the Wood (Jazon and Montgomery).—Jan. 3, Hip., Birkenhead.
Babes in the Wood (Moss).—Jan. 3, Col., Glasgow.
Babes in the Wood (Rigby).—Jan. 3, Huddersfield.
Babes in the Wood (Scott).—Jan. 3, Playhouse, Cardiff; 10, King's, Dundee.
Babes in the Wood (Sleep).—Jan. 3, Grand, West Hartlepool.
Babes in the Wood (Ventom Swift).—Jan. 3, Crown, Eccles; 10, Lyric, Liverpool.
Babes in the Wood (Joe Collins).—Jan. 3, Emp., Islington.
Babes in the Wood (Wayne).—Jan. 3, East Ham.
Cinderella (Bransgrove and Littler).—Jan. 3, Backburn.
Cinderella (Fred Collins).—Jan. 3, K.'s, Greenock; 10, H.M., Aberdeen.
Cinderella (Clements).—Jan. 3, O.H., Cheltenham; 10, O.H., Cheltenham.
Cinderella ((McKelvie).—Jan. 3, Perth T., Perth; 10, Lyc., Govan, Glasgow.
Cinderella (Joe Collins).—Jan. 3, Hip., Putney.
Cinderella (Jazon and Montgomery).—Jan. 3, T.R., Bolton.
Cinderella (Wylie-Tate). — Jan. 3, Emp., Sheffield.
Cinderella (Parsons).—Jan. 3, Pal., Heywood; 10, Pav., Chorley.
Dick Whittington (Bishop). Jan. 3, Hip., Preston.
Dick Whittington (Watson's).—Jan. 3, Hip., Golders Green; 10, T.R., Guildford.
Dick Whittington (Wylie-Tate).—Jan. 3, Olym., Liverpool.
Dick Whittington (Campbell).—Jan. 3, Hip., Norwich.
Dick Whittington (Clements).—Jan. 3, Lyc., Newport; 10, Lyc., Newport.
Dick Whittington (Josh Clifton).—Jan. 3, Pal., Derby; 10, O.H., Buxton.
Dick Whittington (Jenkins).—Jan. 3, Pal., Tottenham.
House That Jack Built (Palmer-Stanley).—Jan. 3, Met., Bootle; 10, Crown, Eccles.
Humpty-Dumpty (De Lacy).—Jan. 3, Hip., Bury; 10, Met., Manchester.
Jack and the Beanstalk (Jazon and Montgomery).—Jan. 3, Hip., Hulme; 10, Osbourne, Manchester.
Jack and the Beanstalk (Wayne).—Jan. 3, Pal., Walthamstow.
Jack the Giant Killer.—Jan. 3, Col., Ilkeston.
Jack and Jill (Moss).—Jan. 3, Emp., Newcastle.
Jack and Jill (Lees).—Jan. 3, Court, Warrington.
Jack and Jill (Harry Nelson). — Jan. 3, Hip., Gateshead; 10, T.R., Seaham Harbour.
Little Red Riding Hood.—Jan. 3, Emp., Edmonton.
Mother Goose (Ventom Swift). — Jan. 3, King's, Longsight, Manchester; 10, Hip., Bury.
Mother Goose (Fred Collins).—Jan. 3, Pav., Glasgow; 10, Pav., Glasgow.
Red Riding Hood (Comory).—Jan. 3, Hip., Stockton; 10, Palace, Newcastle.
Red Riding Hood (Forde).—Jan. 3, Grand, Clapham.
Robinson Crusoe (Forde).—Jan. 3, Emp., New Cross.
Sinbad the Sailor (Joe Collins).—Jan. 3, Hip., Lewisham.
Sinbad the Sailor.—Jan. 3, Palace, Chelsea.

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—Tempest, Act ii, Scene ii.

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"SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS."

A Fairy Pantomime, in Three Acts, Arranged and Produced by Mr. William Leuw, Chiswick Empire, Dec. 29.

This dainty and refined production, skilfully interpreted by Lilliputian players, last year actually raised £4,000 for different hospitals, and it went so well "that a Certain Person begged them to do it all again for the War Seal Foundation—and here they are." Very dear to the heart of the C.P. is this wonderful charity, for it goes without saying that Sir Oswald Stoll is the Person referred to in the statement issued. With his wonderful business acumen, he devised this scheme, which, by the way, is one of the best evolved for our disabled heroes. No sooner mooted than the idea of these performances at Chiswick was enthusiastically taken up by Mr. J. Persich, the energetic manager, and his efforts were rewarded by a "house" literally overflowing—due not a little to the popularity of Mr. Persich, whose friends rallied round with magnificent unanimity.

Of Mr. William Leuw's production it may be said it has lost none of its innate prettiness. The lines are quite clever, and spoken trippingly, for the elocution of these miniature players was one of the delights of their performance, due largely to Miss Gladys Gregory, who also filled the rôle of the naughty Queen with conspicuous ability. As Snow White, Princess of Poppyland, Miss Molly Leuw scored an unmistakable success. She sings sweetly, and dances even better, and the little folk in the huge audience ensconced her as first favourite. Joyce Land as Podgio also distinguished herself, and splendidly supported the efforts of Snow White. Hearty applause greeted Miss Dora Pickard's interpretation of an automatic doll. This little mite got through her dances with much charm, and to the melody of "La Poupée" she won thunders of applause. The Pierrot dolls (Miss Mary Taylor and Ralphie Moore) also achieved success. To Miss Marjorie Martin fell the rôle of the Prince, and quite admirably she filled it. Her song, "I Passed by Your Window," was vociferously re-demanded. The same maiden also proved her ability later as the Fairy Queen. Miniature Mary Taylor (a mere speck on the great stage) won a torrent of applause as Wild Rose, and Ralphie Moore displayed considerable ability as Wind—a wonderful performance. Very amusing and distinctly good were the Seven Dwarfs. Again we had more wonderful dancing; indeed, it proved Terpsichore's revels. Doris Martin in a wedding cake dance, Mary Taylor in a Russian and Dora Pickard in a jazz, all enhanced the joys of the production. The choregraphic display was arranged by Miss Susie Boyle and Mr. B. Soutten, both of whom may be congratulated. Mr. F. Saker conducted with his usual skill, and his fine orchestra greatly increased the success of the "show." To Mr. J. Persich and his staff too much credit cannot be given, while the merry little players—they call themselves Bricks—have again won their laurels in a noble cause.

"CINDERELLA" AT CANNOCK.

On Boxing Day afternoon Papa Parsons and his own company presented "Cinderella" at the Hippodrome, Cannock, to a full house which was exceedingly appreciative of the fare provided. The pantomime, which adheres closely to the familiar story, is written by B. Parsons, artistically dressed by Mme. Parsons, and eleven performers of that name contribute to the general success. There are seven scenes, the most notable being the Depths of the Wood, Cinderella's Kitchen, the Grand Ballroom, and the Prince's Palace—these are the work of Phil V. Davies. Incidental music is by Horace V. Newton.

It is a crisp, lively pantomime, abounding with healthy fun, plenty of melodious songs and spectacular effects, and is an entertainment pleasing to old and young alike.

Miss Maggie Parsons makes a charming principal boy, and her voice is heard to advantage in "Let the Rest of the World Go By" and other ballads. Miss Eva Parsons is an effective Cinderella, playing carefully, and receiving much applause for her songs, which include "City of Laughter, City of Tears" and "I'm Getting Tired Playing Second Fiddle." The Sisters are cleverly played by Mme. Parsons and Miss Dolly Parsons, who cause endless merriment with their continual bickering. The last-named possesses a cultured voice, and gave an excellent example of distinctness of enunciation in her songs. Miss Alice Parsons portrays with ability the rôle of valet, and sings with marked effect "Oo la la! Wee Wee!" and "Tally Ho!" A capable performance is that of Miss Mona Parsons as Buttons, and the same may be said of Miss Ethel Parsons as the Fairy Godmother. The principal comedy rôles of Broker's Men are in the capable hands of Mr. George Parsons and John Dixon, their performance being extremely amusing. The Baron is played by Mr. Harry Taylor. Other songs and ensembles worthy of mention are "Smith, Jones, Robinson and Brown," "Chips and Fish," "I Want to Snuggle," "Sam the Sailor," "By Jove," and "Swanee." Appropriate dances are introduced.

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"One day, however, I chanced to read about Dr. Cassell's Tablets, and started giving them to Fred. Imagine my delight when shortly after he began to get better, and then on he improved rapidly, and soon was able to run about. He is just full of health and activity, and as plump as possible.

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THREE PLAYS BY MARY ELWES.

"Temporary Engagements, and Other Plays," by Mary Elwes, is published by Francis Griffiths, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand, at 2s. 6d. The first-mentioned play is in two acts, and the plot is founded on the rivalry of three suitors for the hand of Lady Brendon's pretty daughter, Rosamond, who, as a "cure for chronic impecuniousness," chooses the wealthy, but vulgar, Sir Frederic Stiggins. He, however, is discovered to be in collusion with a German spy, who is planning to give information to the enemy. Arrested as a traitor to his country, Sir Frederic commits suicide by taking poison, and the play closes with the prospect of Rosamond becoming the wife of Percy Loftus, the young naval officer who was engaged to her before Sir Frederic came on the scene. The other two one-act plays are "Two in a Flat," which was produced at the London Pavilion in July, 1914, and "In Time of War," founded upon an incident which happened in the autumn of 1914, and had, of course, to do with the great war. Miss Elwes' plays may be recommended to the notice of amateur actors who are in search of novelties well within their capacity.

POST OFFICE LONDON DIRECTORY.

This useful publication, of which the present is the one hundred and twenty-second annual edition, maintains its reputation for the accuracy of the mass of information contained in three substantial volumes, into which it is now divided, and which, by the way, is a vast improvement on the old one-volume form. It is well worthy of note that in bringing the information contained in the book up to date, it has been found necessary to make more than 250,000 corrections, these figures exceeding all previous records by more than 30,000. Attention is directed to the enormous number of changes in London addresses in the course of a year, which in itself shows how essential it is that the business man should have at hand for ready reference the three volumes of the Post Office London Directory.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Happy Returns to—
J. Herman Dickson—Wednesday, Jan. 5.
Ben Davies—Thursday, Jan. 6.
Gordon Craig—Thursday, Jan. 6.
Adeline Genée—Thursday, Jan. 6.
Chris Van Bern—Thursday, Jan. 6.
Milton Bode—Friday, Jan. 7.
G. Mouillot—Friday, Jan. 7.
George Conquest—Sunday, Jan. 9.
Cliff Martell—Tuesday, Jan. 11.

How "French Leave" was First Left.

For more reasons than one Mr. Clarence Hurst has good reason to pat himself on his managerial back. One is in the case of Captain Reginald Berkeley's great success, "French Leave," which is doing so well at the Apollo. Mr. Hurst, who had charge of this piece, offered it virtually to every manager in London, but they all turned it down!

At last Clarence, believing more and more in the play, formed a small—a very small—syndicate, with a capital of about £700! Thus financially armed, Mr. Hurst took a West-End theatre for a fortnight, he and All Concerned agreeing to drop the piece altogether if it failed to catch on. We all know how wonderfully it caught on, both at its first temporary shelter and subsequently at its present abode.

PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES.

"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK" AT MANCHESTER.

The fifth Wylie-Tate pantomime to be produced at the Palace, Manchester, saw the light in the form of a fanciful story of "Jack and the Beanstalk" on Monday, Dec. 27. Like its predecessors, the production showed signs from the first of an expert producer—Mr. Gus Sohlke—behind it; it is a compact, intelligible, entertaining show, with no weak moments and no loose ends to trim away, and there is every probability of a long and successful run. The book and lyrics have been done by Messrs. J. James Hewson, Clifford Harris, and Valentine, and Mr. J. W. Tate is responsible, as usual, for the selection and arrangement of the music, which includes many original items. The setting of the story is magnificent, and reflects great credit on the artists, Messrs. Conrad Tritschler, Marc Henri and Philip Howden. Particularly fine is the realistic picture of the Village of Arcadee, while something approaching the glories of a transformation scene is achieved when the beanstalk begins to grow up and up to the fairyland where the Giant dwells with the captured Princess Sylvia. Several of the scenes are conceived in the true spirit of pantomime, such as the Giant's library, with its litter of tremendous books, each as big as a man, from a number of which are invoked the leading personalities of other pantomimes for a picturesque vocal ensemble. The scene of the Cattle Fair is also a quaint set, in which the still quainter spectacle is seen of Jack (Miss Dorothy Ward) bidding a heartbroken farewell to an equally heartbroken cow (two of the Pender Troupe). The Giant's Kitchen, where the Giant's family is seen towering up by degrees to a great height in the persons of the Penders, is another touch of true pantomime, like a whiff of old times.

Miss Dorothy Ward is firmly established as a favourite here, and in the role of Jack at once found herself at home with her audience. It is almost within the order of things to describe Miss Ward as one of the principal scenic attractions, for there is nothing more magnificent than her dresses, and nothing more graceful and brilliant that is quite so much alive. Her energy and vivacity need no emphasising, while every possible ounce of effect was got out of her songs, "Swanee," "Let the Rest of the World Go By," and "You Know What I Mean." Her vis-à-vis, Princess Sylvia, is beautifully played by Miss Amy Verity, who sings one or two integral numbers very daintily, and who moves throughout with ease and a charming restraint.

For purely laughing purposes the presence of Shaun Glenville and Jay Laurier at the head of the comic department is fully justified. It is the same exuberant Shaun Glenville as heretofore, squeezing a laugh out of everything, and singing his songs in his own inimitable manner; his version of "Smith, Jones, Robinson and Brown" is, for example, a distinctive treat, and he has an equally distinctive chance in a topical duet with Miss Dorothy Ward from one of the stage boxes. Equally important to the success of the show is Jay Laurier, with his infectious laugh and his illimitable confidence and resourcefulness. His song, "Emmalina," is a hit, so also is a "Lullaby" number, sung to a crying baby somewhere in the audience, while he has several entertaining interludes with Kiddy Kennedy, who plays a diminutive slavey, Sarah Jane, with humorous precocity. She, however, like Fred Allandale, who pops about as King Gerald XXX, has scarcely enough to do for display purposes, and especially in the case of the latter this is a pity, for he is a tried comedian of great worth. What he does, however, is done smartly and well. Miss Vera Moore as the Fairy, Walter Hubert as the Giant, Miss Violet Egbert as Principal Dancer, and the Pender Troupe, complete a strong cast, supported by many clever children and a competent ballet and chorus.

"ALADDIN" AT NOTTINGHAM.

In presenting pantomime for Christmas fare at the Repertory Theatre, Mrs. Edward Compton has wisely judged her patrons, who will come back to the excellent spring repertory with keener delight.

A crowded audience on Boxing Day gave unqualified approval to Messrs. Macdonald and Young's interesting production of "Aladdin." Mr. George M. Slater has strung together an excellent story, which never flags in humour, and will gain in popularity. The scenery is designed to follow the "story." The most notable sets are The Cave of the Lamp, The City of Hanki-Pank, and Aladdin's Wedding, and all credit is deserved by the scenic artists, Messrs. T. Ryan, Alfred Terraine, and George Dodson. The costumes are tasteful and effective, and the mechanical and electrical effects are splendidly worked. Praise should be given to Miss Lily Cover and Mr. Slater for the tuneful music. Miss Kathleen Boutall is a worthy exponent of Aladdin, carrying herself buoyantly throughout. She sings with excellent results. "Let the Rest of the World Go By," and is especially effective in "Wyoming Lullaby," in which the scene is a field of large sunflowers, through which girls thrust their heads and join in the melody. The delightful dancing of Miss Margaret Lawrence, as Sweet-ee, is one of the features of the production. She is as light and frolicsome as a fairy. Miss Dorrice Cullerne makes a winsome and attractive Princess and gives a pleasing rendering of "I Want a Great Big Somebody" and a dainty "Fan" song. Miss Gladys Tudor plays Pekoe with vivacity and charm, and her rendition of "Italiano" gains well-merited recognition. Miss Elsie Don, Slave of the Lamp, and Mr Henry Fielding, Geni of the Ring, very acceptably fill their parts.

The work of the comedians is smart and resourceful. Mr. John E. Coyle puts the right sort of humour into his presentation of Abanazar, and he makes every point tell in "Everybody Calls Me Tarzan." Mr. Richard Teasdale is a thoroughly amusing Widow Twankey, giving his number "The Gipsy Warned Me," with expressive drollery, and, with Mr. Coyle, scores all along the line in the topical duet, "When I Leave the World Behind." Mr. Herbert Lewis adds to the fun as the Emperor, and expert assistance in the mirth-making is supplied by Mr. Dixie Dalmar (Prime Minister), Mr. Edward Scales (Slopp-ah), and Mr. Charles Victor (Kopp-ah).

The work of the chorus is excellent, and the charm of the Palace scene is greatly enhanced by a splendidly executed musical march, containing some wonderfully intricate movements.

"PUSS IN BOOTS" AT RAMSGATE.

Mr. George Brydon Phillips' Co. in the pantomime "Puss in Boots" had a splendid opening at the Palace Theatre, Ramsgate. The pantomime is good, rollicking fun all the way, and the wholesome merriment captivated crowded audiences through the holidays.

The company is well chosen, and includes many of the favourites who were in Mr Phillips' pantomime combination last year. Miss Millie Jilson is a charming Jack, while the Gladwell Brothers as the wicked Brothers Badlot and Sadlot, cause great amusement with their knockabout comedy. Sid Kearns works hard and well as Dame Dorkin; Miss Nora McCarthy is an excellent Fairy Hymen, and sings pleasantly; Mr. George Lake-Grange is a stalwart giant Grin Gobble; and Miss Eddie Scott is capital in the title rôle. The Six Drummer Girls give a lively turn with their dexterous manipulation of the sticks.

The company gave a performance at the General Hospital, Ramsgate, on Christmas Day, and also assisted at a concert for the unemployed.

"SINBAD" AT READING.

Mr. Donald Keir has scored a great success with his first pantomime at the Royal County Theatre, Reading, which has drawn crowded houses at every performance. It is of a rollicking, robust, and jovial type of seasonable fun which appeals to both young and old. The favourite story of "Sinbad the Sailor" is presented in most attractive style, under Mr. Donald Keir's able direction.

The title rôle is taken by Miss Mabel Kempton with engaging grace and vivacity. Miss Joan Grey is charming as Lorinda, the lass who loved a sailor. Miss Minnie May is a graceful Princess Laidee. Mr. George Bray is highly amusing as Tinbad the Tailor. Mr. Donald Keir plays effectively as Captain Cook. Mr. Dan Noel makes an ideal dame as Mrs. Sinbad, and Vi and Viola are attractive as Selim and Lukeika. Mr. Fred Melt is good as Baccah the Bo'sun. Mr. F. G. Ingleby makes a striking Emperor. Octopus, the Old Man of the Sea, is impersonated by "Amandus." Miss Irene Favian is captivating as Lustra the Good Fairy. Mr. Cyril Walsh plays well as Rum Fum. Pauline Rivers' Twelve Little Amethysts prove a great attraction, and Sunshine Ivy and Little Marie are dainty dancers. The special scenery is very effective, and the costumes are tastefully designed. The pantomime is written by Frank Ayrton; music by C. D. Fox and D. Powell.

"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK" AT TORQUAY.

Following his successes of the past few years, Mr. Carlton Fredricks is again responsible for the pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Torquay, and this year chosen "Jack and the Beanstalk." The book and lyrics, by Mr. Wilfred Dane, keep the old nursery story prominently in view all the time, and this being one of the lesser-known themes, it is more than usually interesting. There are nine scenes, painted by Mr. J. Cunnigham, of which perhaps the most striking is the growth of the beanstalk.

Miss Della Fredricks, who takes the lead as Jack with vivacity and charm, has won many admirers on previous occasions, and her appearance this year was especially welcome. She has several good songs, in all of which she makes a hit; "I'm Coming Back to L'il Old London" was well received, as also was her rendering of "Wyoming Lullaby," and the lilting melody of the now familiar "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles," with the well-known Pears' tableau as a background, was accorded a very hearty reception. The Princess of Miss Fayde Bond was a dainty impersonation, and her singing of "In Any Old House" was enthusiastically received. Miss Joan Carrington was a very charming Fairy, and spoke her lines with a clearness of diction that is all too rare, whilst one of the features of the show was the singing of "City of Laughter, City of Tears" by Miss Denise Gordon, whose handsome personality and rich contralto voice made her appearance as Alan one of the incidents to be remembered.

Mr. Carlton Fredricks himself is one of the chief fun-makers as Dame Trot, and his topical references to local affairs were always apt and in good taste, and never failed to evoke a hearty laugh. Equally successful, too, is Mr. C. Preston Weir as Muggins. He is an artist of considerable versatility, and sings and dances in excellent style. Messrs. Newco and Sullo are responsible for plenty of amusement, whilst the King and Queen, as played by Mr. Charles Ross and Miss Evangeline Hope, were the cause of continuous merriment. The grotesque and fearsome personality of the Giant was well brought out by Mr. Wainwright.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT EASTBOURNE.

Messrs. Murray King and Clark's pantomime, "Dick Whittington," at the Devonshire Park Theatre, must be written down a greater success than ever, as evidenced by the crowded houses which enjoy this show twice daily. The fourteen scenes combine beauty and novelty, and at the end of the wonderful moving ship ride, the catch phrase of the comedian, "I don't half feel bad," must imply literal truth. The dresses are elaborate and beautiful of design and everything goes with a right merry swing. Mr. Murray King as the Dame Drusilla Margo is once more a pronounced favourite, and whether pattering, singing or dancing, he is the source and centre of great merriment. Mr. George Grogie is the Idle Jack, and shares the honours with his extremely effective work as a clever characteristic comedian. Miss Jenny Robbins is the Dick Whittington, and on her work praise of the highest must be bestowed. Very attractive in manner and appearance, she sings in pleasing and characteristic style and her dancing is one of the conspicuously successful items of the production. Miss Suzette Sonia gives charming help as Alice, and a pleasing, graceful, dainty Fairy is Miss Mirabelle Weir, whose song are prettily rendered. Mr. Tony Williams, in addition to playing King Rat excellently, undertakes the task of stage manager. Mr. Arthur Stanley helps in the general success as Fitzwarren, and a special word of compliment must be given to Mr. Will Merritt for his fine work as the Cat. A trio of Lilliputians are a novelty in themselves, and their agile dancing, surprising conjuring, and remarkable singing are notable successes. The Four Royal Crest Lady Dancers are graceful exponents of their art, and a large, pretty, and shapely chorus completes one of the best pantomimes seen here.

"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK" AT PLYMOUTH.

"Jack and the Beanstalk" (J. Bannister Howard's) is presented at the Grand Theatre, Plymouth, by Messrs. G. S. King and H. D. Parry, by arrangement with Comic Operas (1915). The first week's run has been an unqualified success. The pantomime is exceedingly well produced by Mr. J. M. East, the mounting being very attractive, with the touch of improbability and mystery that captures the imagination of the young and carries back the adults with keen enjoyment to the days of their youth.

There are ten scenes, those outstanding being the Interior of Widow Simpson's Cottage, with its transformation, first into the Magic Mirror, and then the Magic Beanstalk, the Giant's Castle, and the Palace of Happiness. With all the ingenious interpositions, spectacular, comic, and terpsichorean, the theme is always dominant. The cast is strong, and interprets the spirit as well as the letter of the story. Alison Maclaren gives a jolly impersonation of Jack. There is nothing artificial about her acting, and that fact ensures her popularity with the audience. Audrey Wynne is a pert Prince Pearl, and makes the most of her opportunities. Lilian Campbell is as dainty as her rôle, Fairy Star of Hope, and fascinates everyone. The comic element is strong. Carson Hicks as Simple William works exceptionally hard and scores every time. Widow Simpson, as impersonated by William P. Sheen Sheen, is as mirth-provoking as the most comical of Dames could be, and Phil Rees comically interprets the characteristics covered by the title of King Coddem. John M. East is an awesome Giant Greedy, and Heather Evans the embodiment of the Demon of Unrest. In the guise of the Family Cow Harry Shrubb and J. Simonoff provide riotous fun, and Harry Zietz interpets the idiocyncrasies of the Donkey in an amusing manner. Little Therese Goringe is a precocious Giant's Baby. Although so young and small, she acts with the confidence of an experienced actor, and yet does not lose the baby touch. Her singing of "I Know Where Flies Go in the Winter-time" is great. Alison Maclaren's principal hits are "Swanee" and "You Know What I Mean"; Lilian Campbell's, "The Cottage Where Dreams Come True," and in combination with Heather Evans, "Wyoming Lullaby"; Audrey Wynne's "Wishing Moon" and William Sheen's "Gipsy's Warning." Audrey Carlyon is the principal dancer, supported by Euphan Maclaren's Eight Sunshine Dancers. Mr. Henry Meyer is the musical director.

When It's No Use Pretending.

THE PRACTICAL WOMAN AND HER GREY HAIR.

THE gayest of us have our moments of hollow depression. Sooner or later we all have to give up pretending, even to ourselves, and relapse into unhappy candour.

At no time, if one is a woman, does one feel more acutely miserable than when one faces one's mirror in a clear cold light and marks the first signs of the "going off" of one's charms. I know a very charming and sophisticated woman whose nightmare is that she may one day find herself in the situation beloved by novelists—that is, alone or nearly alone, on a desert island. "Just fancy," she wails, "having no comb or looking glass or hairpins, and, worst of all, no tammalite. Because, do you realise, that I should actually be grey?" To see her soft brown hair one would suspect her of perverting the truth. But she frankly assures her friends that her hair would be nothing without an occasional timely application of a tonic made of bay rum and pure tammalite. "It brings out a good colour," she affirms, "besides making one's hair beautifully healthy. Why, I was in despair a year or two ago, because my hair was growing grey in streaks. But since I discovered tammalite I haven't the slightest difficulty in keeping my hair its normal shade."

And what a difference beautiful hair makes to any woman. It excuses plainness, it enhances beauty. What man pictures the woman of his dreams with anything but soft, abundant hair? From Rapunzel to Mélissande, there is something romantic about lovely locks. It is deplorable nowadays to see naturally beautiful hair ruined by neglect, curling irons, harmful shampoos, and the like. Many girls, otherwise careful of their good looks, think nothing of going to bed without brushing their hair. Without constant brushing the hair can never attain to that glossy "sheeny" look that is so delightful. A good brushing for fifteen minutes night and morning should be included in the discipline of every woman, plain and pretty. A stiffish brush should be used, and it should be always scrupulously clean.

It is not good enough to use just any shampoo when washing the hair. Care should be taken to find the very best one, and then to keep to it. A really excellent idea is to use only stallax granules which are obtainable at all good chemists. A teaspoonful of stallax is sufficient for each shampoo, so a 1lb. package will last for a long time.

This very simple shampoo gives splendid results. The delicious foaming lather it makes not only cleanses the hair thoroughly, but brings out every atom of its latent colour and brightness. The hair dries quickly, and though beautifully soft, it is quite manageable.

When the scalp is inclined to be dry, and the hair brittle, it is a good plan to massage it with olive oil before giving it a stallax shampoo.

There are few things which increase one's self-respect so much as the possession of lovely hair. It is a perpetual joy to oneself and others, and with a little care, one can defy hairpin-scattering winds and even trying, if romantic situations—on an uninhabited island.

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THE ERA

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 1921.

A CLERICAL CENSORSHIP!

MANAGERS and dramatists, and their patrons the public, will view with no little dismay the proposal that the BISHOP OF LONDON should form a committee to assist in an advisory capacity the Censor of Plays in regard to what productions would be likely to offend religious people. Up to the present the proposal has got no further than the suggestion stage, and we trust it will end there. It is not many months since his Lordship made an attack on London plays, which he denounced in round terms. As we pointed out at the time, the Bishop's onslaught was particularly ill-timed, as the plays then being performed included some of the cleanest and most wholesome that could be conceived.

A New Danger.

The present suggestion seems equally out of place. A search among the current attractions would reveal little to which exception could be taken. On the contrary, there is a wealth of innocently amusing pieces, which have been put on for the Christmas season. What, for instance, could be more edifying and uplifting than "Peter Pan," "Where the Rainbow Ends," or "The Shepherdess Without a Heart"? From what healthier sources could laughter spring than those of "The Private Secretary" or "Charley's Aunt"?

The evening bills are equally innocuous. The humour of "When Knights were Bold" has stood unchallenged the test of years, and against "Lord Richard in the Pantry" no word of scandal has been raised throughout its twelve months' run. What finer sentiment, too, could be wished than that provided by "Mary Rose," which might well defy the strictest censorship, while "Chu Chin Chow," in its fifth year at His Majesty's, has become an institution. Then there are the pantomimes—three in the West End and many in the suburbs—paying allegiance, certainly, to the Lord of Misrule, but devoid in the main of coarseness or offence. We could, indeed, exhaust the list of plays in London without finding anything for which the censors could be brought to book.

Views of All Varieties.

The introduction of the clerical element in the censorship would only add to the terrors of theatrical management. The present co-censors are both men of the theatre and men of the world, fully alive to the requirements of the community, and realising in a remarkable way what would not be good for them. What might be the result of a clerical intrusion? Leaders of the Established Church hold conflicting views on fundamental principles of theology. What is to prevent them putting them into practice in regard to play-licensing? What one divine would find amusing another would view with horror. One might seek to ban the Rev. Robert Spalding as being a libel on the Church, and another might object to "Peter Pan" as contrary to the laws of gravity. Others might see in "Mary Rose" an incentive to Spiritualism, and still another might regard with reprobation the comic effects which the comedian makes out of his rubicund nose as being an encouragement to indulgence in intoxicating drinks.

It is expedient to let well alone. The British stage is the purest in the world. A perusal of our French and American correspondents' letters each week will convince anyone that this country keeps itself freer from harm in respect of plays than those mentioned, while German playwrights are said to be a little more pornographic than usual. The County and Borough Councils keep a vigilant eye on all performances—which is, after all, a surer way of checking improprieties than by pre-production licensing—and there are never wanting members of the public ready to call the attention of the authorities to anything harmful that may have escaped their notice.

To put the purist in the position of play-censor would be nothing short of a catastrophe. It would erect an insurmountable obstacle to dramatic output, and would tend towards the utter extinction of the drama.

THE PLAY IN PARIS.

Excellent Holiday Business—Sarah Bernhardt at the Alhambra—Modern Comedy at the House of Moliere.

(FROM "THE ERA" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Sunday.—The New Year's fête, as well as those of Christmas, have passed off satisfactorily, with reports of good business at all places of amusement, although on the whole the takings were not what all the managers expected. The prices of admission, unlike Christmas Eve, were not raised to any great extent on New Year's Eve. No action was taken by the authorities relative to the proposition to impose a tax on excess prices, and it is doubtful that such a Bill will be introduced even for next year. The amusement caterers are undoubtedly entitled to all the receipts the public is willing to contribute at holiday times, for the profits are not enormous all the year round, and there is every possibility of a bit of a slump during the next few weeks.

There are few new productions on the horizon, and there is every indication we are entering a slack period, which will relieve the critics, who have been kept on the move during the past three months. "Daniel" is nearing a close, and Madame Sarah Bernhardt will appear about the middle of January for one month, in a poem, "Le Vitrail," by R. Fauchois, at the Alhambra, now directed from London by Charles Gulliver, with the bustling Joe Brooke as house manager. In this one-act sketch, already seen in the provinces, Mme. Berndardt will play, seated, the rôle of a baroness of the Middle Ages. Other revivals are announced, albeit there are young playwrights galore awaiting a chance to offer their works to the public.

"Mamam Colibri."

The Comedie Française has taken into its repertoire this strong four-act comedy of Henry Bataille, produced in 1904, and revived at the Athenée, under the direction of Deval, in 1911. The première of the fresh revival on Wednesday was an event not missed by literary lights of the ville lumière. Though not essentially suited for the House of Moliere, it is, perhaps, the greatest play this poetical prose author has written. The heroine is Irene de Rysbergue, who, though turned the age of 40, reciprocates the love of her sons' college friend just out of his teens. This modern Phèdre delibzerately renounces husband, family, and Society to follow the young fellow to Algeria, where he goes as a conscript to perform his military duty. As to be expected, the passion of the disproportioned couple ultimately grows cold, and she returns to her former home to find her elder son married with a child. She devotes herself to this offspring, under the appelation of Mamma Colibri. I remember seeing Berthe Bady, when she created the rôle at the Vaudeville, and consider her more realistic than Berthe Cerny, who now plays the part. Moreover, Raphael Duflos is not equal to Lerand as the Baron de Rysbergue, but Roger Gaillard is an ardent youthful lover, the part created by Roger Monteaux.

"Les Erinnyes."

The antique tragedy of Leconte de l'Isle, with accompanying music by Jules Massenet, was presented by Jacques Hebertot at the Theatre des Champs Elysées on Tuesday, succeeding the Russian ballets. The work is counted among the classics since its production at the Odeon in 1872. Romuald Joubé (who is to join the Comedie Française shortly) splendidly plays Orestes; Mme. Moreno is a suitable Kassandra, Marcelle Frappa portrays Klytemnestra. To relieve the gloom of this tragedy, the entertainment terminates with Moliere's quasi-Italian one-act farce, "Le Médecin Volant."

The next show at the versatile Theatre des Champs Elysées (which I consider one of the finest playhouses in Europe) will be a revival of René Fauchoirs' "Beethoven," with the author, Bouthors and Mme. Dermoz in the leading rôles. The large orchestra of the house, conducted by Pierre Monier, will render the more important fragments of Beethoven, while Mme. Lucie Caffaret will execute the "Appassionata."

Operatic Revivals.

The Opera Comique is resuming the run of the French version of "Cosi Fan Tutte," directed by M. Catherine, with Vieuille, Cazette, Audoin, Mmes. Sitter Ciampi, Vallandri, Baye. To-morrow the Opera revives "Castor et Pollux," conducted by Ph. Gaubert.

Theatre de la Chauve Souris.

Thus Nikita Balieff has designated the offshoot of his little playhouse in Moscow, which he has installed at the Theatre Femina. We should translate it as The Bat. While these Russian refugees merit success, the attendance is not large, and the programme is rather curtailed, notwithstanding the diversity of materia available. The bill comprises a selection of songs by Ritch, Mmes. Effremova, Valerskaia, dances with Svoboda and Mme. Anderson to music of Tchaikovsky, and a series of impersonations of Sevres and China porcelain, Russian toys, etc., by members of the troupe, against a black velvet background. The entertainment is charming, but will not appeal to the average playgoer.

THE DRAMA IN AMERICA.

"Lady Billy"—The Dublin Abbey Players—A Jewish "Black and Tan"—New Vaudeville Circuit.

(FROM "THE ERA" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—The accomplished young musical comedy actress called Mitzi is appearing at the Liberty Theatre in an entertaining piece entitled "Lady Billy." The book and lyrics were written by Zelda Sears, a capable actress who has suddenly turned playwright, and the music was composed by Harold A. Levey. The first act passes in the Roumanian castle of the Countess Antonia (Mitzi), the later scenes being laid in New York. A change of fortune brings the Countess to America, where she masquerades as a boy at a studio in Greenwich Village and earns her living as a male soprano. The task of keeping her secret is made more difficult by the discovery of a Roumanian servant, now blossoming out as a writer of free verse. After a series of adventures the Countess finds happiness in the arms of her lover, an engineer with the unromantic name of John Smith.

The score includes several melodious numbers. Particularly pleasing are "Just Plant a Kiss," "The Legend," "Goodbye," and "If," a sort of topical song in which Mitzi displays her versatility. Sydney Greenstreet is amusing in a butler's rôle and sings a clever patter-song, "The Worm's Revenge." Henry W. Savage is the producer.

"Mixed Marriage."

St. John Ervine's four-act play, "Mixed Marriage," was put on last Monday at the Bramhall Theatre, a small playhouse on the east side of town. It was acted here by the Abbey Theatre Players some years ago, but there has been some revision since then. It is admirably acted by Margaret Wycherly, Augustus Duncan, Rollo Peters and others, the newspapers praising both the play and the performance very highly.

"The Black and Tan."

Montague Glass, of "Potash and Perlmutter" fame, has written an Irish comedy entitled "The Black and Tan," in which the leading rôle will be played by the Jewish comedian and "dialectician," Bobby North. It is announced that the play has been accepted for production by John Golden. A Ukrainian peasant with red hair takes a course at a Prague correspondence school and decides to go to war. Through a mistake he enlists in an Irish regiment bound for India and appears as Hamlet at an amateur performance in the regimental mess. He does pretty well until the mess sergeant reproves him for wearing red hair as Hamlet. He stutters, and a physical examination results, which causes him to be drummed out of the regiment and banished to the Burmese hills to starve. There he is discovered by a Burmese blonde, the daughter of a millionaire biscuit manufacturer, and box by box, biscuit by biscuit, she slowly feeds him back to life.

New Vaudeville Circuit.

The Shuberts are planning a chain of vaudeville houses in opposition to the Keith Circuit. William Fox, the motion-picture producer, is likely to be a partner of the Shuberts in the enterprise. Several of the Shubert theatres in New York will be turned into vaudeville houses, and it is said that one of these, the Central Theatre, at Broadway and Forty-seventh-street, will be run in opposition to the Palace, the principal Keith house, which is just across the way.

"Equity" and the Dramatists.

The Dramatists' Guild discussed the Equity shop and its possible effect upon playwrights at a special meeting and formed a committee to deal with the matter. It was asserted by several speakers that the Equity shop would interfere with the prerogative of the dramatists in the selection of casts, since certain players desired might not be members of the Actors' Equity Association.

ANECDOTES FROM THE GREEN ROOM.

HOW I HEARD MY OWN EPITAPH.

By ARTHUR LEWIS.

Theatrical anecdoes are not always very entertaining, but here is one that I think is a gem. My friend, Mostyn Pigott, one night some years ago accompanied me to a London theatre, where a comedy was finishing its short career of four performances. I believe the fourth and last representation played appropriately to just four pounds. When the final curtain fell we went behind the scenes to sympathise with the star whose venture had so completely come to grief, and there we met the author. He was a cheerful soul, and said he was afraid it had been a "bit of a failure." "Oh, I don't know," replied Pigott, "*it's often been a success before!*"

A Full-Time Job.

Here's a good one of Buckstone. Poor old Bucky was always in difficulties. Heaven alone knows how many times he was bankrupt! I went one evening to his house at Sydenham. At Charing Cross a gentleman stopped him, and introduced himself as an old acquaintance. Buckstone, who was very deaf, didn't catch his name, but that did not stop our gentleman asking for a couple of seats for the play. With something resembling a sigh, Buckstone handed him his card, upon which he had written: "Two seats, J. B. B." As he received it, the importunate person said: "Thank you, Mr. Buckstone, and now will you tell me when you are going to write another lovely play like 'The Green Bushes'?" "I don't know," was the answer, "at present all my time is taken up with writing passes for the Haymarket Theatre!"

[Photo, Stage Photo Company

MR. ARTHUR LEWIS.

Here's a good one of H. J. Byron. A friend met him in Liverpool, when he was in difficulties—they were all more or less in that predicament in those days—on account of his management of the Theatre Royal. "My dear Byron," said his friend. "you look very ill; what's the matter?" "Stomach, I think," Byron replied. "Then you should take a good dose of castor oil," was the advice tendered. "Castor oil?" replied Byron. "I've had a d——d good dose of Theatre Royal!"

A Free Rendering.

A young gentleman in Australia was cast for the part of King Duncan in "Macbeth." He was very shaky about the words, but didn't care—and went on as if he didn't. When about to start the speech beginning: "This castle hath a pleasant seat, the air," etc.—as a matter of fact he couldn't start it. So he turned to his companions—and with a large and comprehensive gesture, said: "Nice little place you've got here!"

Red Tape Regulations.

My friend, Dr. Kelman, of Edinburgh—now the minister of the Fifth-avenue Presbyterian Church in New York—told me that when he was a Chaplain to the Forces at the front, he came into a huge barn, somewhere behind the lines, where there were four or five hundred Tommies—all singing diffrent tunes—the noise was awful. Dr. Kelman mounted a chair, and, after a while, stopped the din, and addressing the boys, said: "My dear boys, I love to hear you sing, and I know you love it, too—it shows your spirit, and that at least you are happy under all these horrible circumstances; but my dear friends, for Heaven's sake sing one tune at a time—not ten or twenty." There was a hush and a longish pause—then one Cockney voice came from the corner with: "More bally red tape!"

R.I.P.

It is not often that one hears one's epitaph, but I heard mine once. It was in New York—on Broadway. I was stopped by a man I seemed to know, and he began a long conversation, mentioning people I knew very well. So I concluded that he must know me, but I could not recall his name, though his face was quite familiar to me. After ten or fifteen minutes, he began to bore me, so I made an excuse—stating an urgent appointment—shook his hand and turned to go. He stopped me with a final question: "By the way—what's become of poor old Arthur Lewis?" "Didn't you know?" I answered. "Why, he died six months ago!" "Oh! Well," he said, "perhaps it's for the best."

Good evening!

AS YOU LIKE IT.

Hamlet, to waverers searching for New Year resolves: "The native hue of resolution is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought."

* * *

The curtain's resolution: Never to have another "drop."

* * *

The playwright's: To "run" straight.

* * *

The sour critic's: To "bring off" everything.

* * *

The conductor's: To conquer age by beating time.

* * *

The man in the flies: To look up to the stars while looking down on them.

* * *

Are not Honours Lists confusing? As Shakespeare says in "King John," "New-made honour doth forget men's names."

* * *

Mr. Hibbert tells us that Penley did not let us know when his understudy was playing. Oh, Penley, why did you not tell us o-penly?

* * *

Apparently he had many understudies; it was a case of some Charleys are and some Charley's Aunt!

* * *

"Mr. Cyril Maude was so used to seeing Miss Fairbrother in male parts," runs a current story, "that he failed to recognise her in feminine attire." She had reverted, you see, from a Fairbrother to a fair sister.

* * *

Mercy Hatton removed a man's hat the other day for a collection. Hope she put the hat on again afterwards.

* * *

And I also hope that Mercy said "Merci."

TOUCHSTONE.

WHAT'S ON IN TOWN.

ADELPHI (Strand, W.C.). — "The Naughty Princess," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 2645.

ALDWYCH (Strand, W.C.). — "The Private Secretary," twice daily, 2.30, 8.15. Cent. 7170. Gerr. 2315.

ALHAMBRA (Leicester square). — "Johnny Jones," 8.15. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 5064-5. Reg. 2522.

AMBASSADORS (Cambridge Circus, W.C.).—"The Whiteheaded Boy," 8.30. Tues., Fri., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 4360.

APOLLO (Shaftesbury avenue). — "French Leave," 8.30. "Where the Rainbow Ends," daily, 2.15. Gerr. 3243.

COLISEUM (Charing Cross).—Grock and Partner, Kajujama, Karsavino, Reynolds and Donegan, Bichette, "No Man's Land." 2.30 and 7.45. Gerr. 7540.

COMEDY THEATRE (Panton-street, S.W.).—"The Charm School," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3724.

COURT (Sloane-sq.)—"A Midsummer Night's Dream," twice daily, 2 and 8. Gerr. 848.

COVENT GARDEN O.H.—"Cinderella," twice daily, 1.30 and 7.30. Gerr. 640-621.

CRITERION (Coventry-st.) — "Lord Richard in the Pantry," 8.30. Tues., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3844.

DALY'S (Cranbourn-street, W.C.).—"A Southern Maid," 8. Tues., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 202.

DRURY LANE (Drury-lane, W.C.).—"Garden of Allah," 8. Wed., Thurs., and Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 2588.

DUKE OF YORK'S (St. Martin's-lane, W.C.).—"When Knights Were Bold," 8. "Teddy Tail," daily, 2.30. Gerr. 314.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).—"Irene," 8.15. Mon., Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3527.

GARRICK (Charing Cross-road, W.C.).—"Brown Sugar," 8.30. "The Shepherdess Without a Heart," daily, 2.30. Gerr. 9513.

GLOBE (Shaftesbury avenue). — "Fedora," 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 6722.

HAYMARKET (Haymarket, S.W.). — "Mary Rose," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., and Sat., 2.30. Reg. 6030.

HIPPODROME (Cranbourn-st., W.C.).—"Aladdin," twice daily, 2 and 7.45. Gerr. 650.

HIS MAJESTY'S (Haymarket).—"Chu Chin Chow," 2.15 and 8, twice daily. Gerr. 1777.

KINGSWAY (Gt. Queen street, W.C.).—"Knight of the Burning Pestle," 8.30. Mon., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 4032.

LITTLE (John-street, Adelphi).—Grand Guignol, 8. Thurs. and Sat., 2.30. Reg. 2401.

LONDON PAVILION (Piccadilly-circus, W.).—"London, Paris, and New York," 8. Thurs. and Sat., 2.30.

LYCEUM (Wellington-street, W.C.).—"The Babes in the Wood," twice daily, 2 and 7. Gerr. 7617.

LYRIC. — "A Little Dutch Girl," 8. Wed. and Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3687.

NEW (St. Martin's-lane, W.C.).—"The Wandering Jew," 8.15. Mon., Tues., Wed., Sat., 2.30. Reg. 4466.

PALACE (Shaftesbury avenue). — The Swedish Ballet, 8.30. Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 6834.

PLAYHOUSE (Charing Cross road, W.C.).—"Romantic Age," 8.30. Mon., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3970.

PRINCES (Shaftesbury avenue). — "Charley's Aunt," twice daily, 2.30 and 8.15. Gerr. 3400

PRINCE OF WALES (Coventry-street, W.).—"The Blue Lagoon." Mon., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 7482.

QUEEN'S (Shatesbury-av.).—"It's All Wrong," 8.30. Thurs. and Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 9437.

ROYALTY (Dean-street, W. 1).—"Milestones," 8.15. Mon., Thurs., and Sat., 2.30.

SAVOY (Strand, W.C.).—"Paddy the Next Best Thing," 8. Twice daily, 2.15 and 8 (except Friday). Gerr. 3366-7.

SHAFTESBURY (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"The Great Lover," 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 6666.

ST. JAMES' (King-st., W.).—"Peter Pan," daily, 2 and 8. Gerr. 1903.

ST. MARTIN'S (West-street, W.C. 2). — "The Skin Game," 8.30. Fri. and Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 1843.

STRAND (Strand, W.C.).—"At the Villa Rose," 8. Thurs. and Sat., 2.30.

VAUDEVILLE (Strand, W.C.).—"Jumble Sale." Tues., Fri., and Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3815.

WINTER GARDEN (Drury-lane). — "All Night Out," 8. Tues., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 416.

WYNDHAM'S (Charing Cross-road, W.C.).—"The Prude's Fall," 8.15. Mon., Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3028.

THEY SAY——

That Nigel Playfair is trying to induce the Oxford authorities to start a repertory theatre.

* * *

That Noel Coward is about to blossom out as an actor-manager.

* * *

That Whimsical Walker can throw a cracker into a top-tier box with perfect accuracy.

* * *

That Nelson Keys never has time to sit down in an arm-chair with a pipe.

* * *

That thirty miles of film were taken for "Outside the Law."

* * *

That only one twenty-fourth of the film will actually be shown.

* * *

That Marie Blanche thinks it is wise policy for an actress to keep something up her sleeve.

* * *

That the Princess Royal is the dramatic critic of the Royal Family.

* * *

That Maud Allan is busy writing her life-story.

* * *

That Billy Merson has invented a contrivance for practising golf in the dressing-room.

* * *

That speculators are negotiating for two West End theatres, with the idea of turning them into flats and offices.

THE VARIETY WORLD.

Water Rats' Installation Night—Brinsworth's Endowment Fund—Ernie Lotinga's New Sketch.

Water Rats' Installation Night.

There were great doings at the Grand Order of Water Rats Lodge at the Vaudeville Club on Sunday night. It was the installation of the new officers for the year, and a banquet followed. George D'Albert was installed King Rat, Fred Griffiths Prince Rat, Gus Garrick Test Rat, W. H. M'Carthy Scribe Rat, Freddy Malcolm Musical Rat, Harry Stelling Bait Rat, and Fred Curran Collecting Rat. The trustees re-elected were J. W. Cragg and Chas. Austin. There was a record attendance of Brother Water Rats, and the fun was fast and furious. Past Prince Rat Dave Carter excelled himself as a caterer and after the repast the Rats adjourned downstairs, and an excellent impromptu concert took place, in which the club members were invited. Everyone present voted it one of the most enjoyable of nights.

Brinsworth's Endowment Fund.

Harry Blake, the hon. treasurer of the V.A.B.F. and I., has just launched a scheme for the endowment of "Brinsworth," the Music Hall Home at Twickenham, founded by Joe Elvin over nine years ago, and if successful it will place the home on an independent footing, and it will never have to close its doors for want of funds. The scheme, which has been placed before the Executive Committee and adopted, is called the Brinsworth Endowment Fund. Every subscriber of one guinea receives an illuminated certificate receipt, beautifully inscribed, a photograph of the Institution at the head, and the subscriber's name filled in, and at the foot the autographed signatures of the officers of the year, founder, president, chairman of the Committee, hon. treasurer, and the secretary. The size of the certificate is 12 x 10.

The fund is to be sunk and invested in a gilt edged security, the interest only to be used for the upkeep of the home.

Brinsworth, the mansion at Twickenham, standing in five acres of beautiful grounds, is the freehold property of the profession, without one penny debt on it. All that is needed is an income for its maintenance, and this scheme, which is worthy of the support of everyone connected with the profession, is for that purpose. The £4,000 proceeds of the Command Performance at the Coliseum, which Sir Oswald Stoll so kindly handed to the V.A.B.F., was placed by the Executive Committee to form the nucleus of this Sinking Fund, which has been added to since when possible. Intending guinea subscribers to this scheme should address the V.A.B.F. Offices at 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2, and definitely state "The Endowment Fund." They will then receive their certificate receipt, which will be a lasting memento of the "Old Pro.'s Paradise."

Ernie Lotinga's New Sketch.

"Kings and Queens," Ernie Lotinga's new sketch, by Norman Lee, should be this week at the London Palladium, but production was delayed owing to picture work. It will open at Hammersmith Palace the week after next.

A Clever Double.

At the Palladium the other week Wilkie Bard and Talbot O'Farrell gave the audience a pleasant surprise. When Wilkie as the old-fashioned lady strolled on to accompany Talbot in the famous ballad, the house rang with laughter, and their amusing by-play won for the popular couple the heartiest of receptions.

Will Evans.

Will Evans, who is making such a great success as the Queen in "Humpty Dumpty" at the Royal, Glasgow, returns to the London Coliseum soon after pantomime, where he will produce another sketch by Norman Lee.

Christmas with the "Oh Laugh" Co.

The members of the "Oh Laugh" Co. are enthusiastic in praise of their chief, Captain Harry Slingsby, who entertained the whole company to dinner at the Tontine Hotel, Greenock, on Christmas Day. The excellent arrangements were made by Ernest A. Vincent, the genial manager of the company, and he received the thanks of the company with becoming modesty. Billy Caryll made some happy speeches, and played the rôle of chief fun-maker with excellent results. Hilda Mundy, the charming leading lady of the company, replied to the toast of the ladies, and Billy Rutherford, Harry Kynman, Charlie Weaver, Ike Bond, Beatty Daniels, and Betty Moare all contributed to the success of a most enjoyable evening.

Variety Theatres Controlling Co.

Commencing with the New Year, the Booking Department of the Variety Theatres Controlling Co., Ltd., will be situated at the Holborn Empire Offices, and all communications regarding contracts, booking and billing matter, should be sent to that address. All communications re accounts to 15, Bedford-street.

Florrie Forde's Pantomime.

Miss Florrie Forde's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," presented by Moss' Empires at their town houses, is one of the best shows now before the public. It has been specially written for Miss Forde by Norman Lee. Mr. Lee also wrote all the comedy scenes, with one exception. Reg Bolton is principal comedian.

Violet Essex's Bereavement.

Miss Violet and Miss Marjorie Essex have sustained a severe bereavement by the death of their father, Mr. John Essex, who passed away at Boscombe on Wednesday. Mr. Essex, who was an ex-Alderman of Islington, and chairman of the Islington Ratepayers' Association, had been in indifferent health for some time, although he continued to engage actively in business and municipal work. During the past few weeks he had been resting at Boscombe, where he went with his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. Tucker and Miss Violet Essex, who were then appearing at the Boscombe Hippodrome. During his stay at the hotel, Mr. Essex contracted influenza, which was followed by bronchitis. Recovering slightly, the doctor ordered his removal to a nursing home. Double pneumonia, however, developed, and he died shortly before eight o'clock on Wednesday evening.

Keeping up his Reputation.

Sir Walter de Frece, M.P., acted as auctioneer at the Christmas doll sale at the Royal York Hotel, Brighton, in aid of Queen Alexandra's Hospital for Sick Children, and fairly maintained his reputation as one of the most successful auctioneers in the cause of charity. Among the chief purchasers were: Mr. Robert Ruddock (the Fleet-street auctioneer, who acted as clerk to Sir Walter de Frece), £280; Mr. H. S. Hooper, £181; Sir Walter de Frece, £177; Mr. Townsend, £102; Mr. and Mrs. M. Selby, £104; and Mrs. Collier, £100. A lady present was so moved by Sir Walter de Frece's appeal on behalf of the children that she took from her finger a diamond ring and asked the auctioneer to sell it. It was twice auctioned, realising altogether £194, and the final purchaser, Mr. Ruddock, gracefully returned it to the donor. The proceeds of the auction amounted to £1,265.

A Palladium Surprise.

At the conclusion of his month's visit at the Palladium on Christmas Eve, Wilkie Bard stepped forward to say a few words on behalf of a sister artiste who was to make her appearance at this house on the following Monday. In his brief speech, Wilkie said he was sure that patrons would give her a fair hearing, and mentioned that, in his judgment, this artiste would make good, and would be retained for two or three more weeks. He would now take the opportunity of introducing the lady. He then led forward the new star—Marie Lloyd! Needless to remark, the inimitable comedienne came in for the heartiest of welcomes.

Granville's Staff Reunion.

At the conclusion of Saturday evening's performance at the Granville, Walham Green, the staff of that cosy little theatre ceased work and settled down to play. The occasion was the New Year's Day staff reunion, and by the kindness of the directors a most enjoyable entertainment was provided. Several well-known professionals came along and gave turns; there was a jazz band for dancing enthusiasts, and refreshments ad lib.

Mr. Frank Hardie voiced the sentiments of all present when, in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to the directors and the manager, Mr. Jimmy McCarthy, he said that, in the course of twenty years' experience of the theatre, he had never seen a house where such good feeling existed between the staff and the management as at the Granville. Incidentally, it was disclosed that the idea of this staff reunion emanated from Mrs. McCarthy (Miss Lillie Lassah). Mr. McCarthy, in a happy little speech, said that he was glad everybody had enjoyed themselves, and expressed the hope that the function would be an annual one.

Doris Ashton.

In the absence of Miss Violet Essex from the Holborn Empire this week, that charming young soprano, Miss Doris Ashton, is once again delighting Holborn audiences, who gave her a hearty welcome on Monday evening when she sang three numbers. Last night—Tuesday—Miss Ashton introduced two new numbers, both of which suit her style admirably, and promise to become very popular by her delightful rendition. The first, entitled "A Song of Long Ago," composed by Emmett Adams, and published by Keith Prowse, is also one of the chief successes of the Kennington pantomime. The second, which possesses a most haunting melody, entitled "Lonesome," is written and composed by Bertie Adams, and is published by Francis and Day.

Marie Lloyd's Latest Success.

At the Palladium last week, Marie Lloyd made a big hit with Harry Bedford's fine new number, "A Bit of a Ruin that Cromwell Knocked About a Bit," the audience taking up the chorus with gusto. Harry tells us that the song has been published by Feldmans.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

The Committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild tender their grateful thanks to Mrs. Morris Chapman for her donation of £2, to Mr. J. A. Harrison and Mr. Homer for their donation of £5 5s., Madame Frances for £2 2s.; Mrs. Blenn, £2 2s.; Mr. Tommy Dawe, £1; Mr. Lionel Lumsden, £1, per Mrs. Rose Lewis Levy. Mrs. Kasrac is thanked for her donation of 10s.; Mrs. Pounds, £1 1s.; Mr. Ram, 5s., per Miss Lottie Albert. Miss M'Lita Dolores is thanked for her Committee subscription of £1 1s., also £1 1s. Committee subscription from Miss Margaret Radcliffe.

The V.A.B.F. and I. very kindly gave the handsome sum of £52 10s. as a donation, and Anonymous £1 1s. per the Secretary. The Committee wish to thank Mr. Sam Isaacs and Mr. Dave Kauffman for their Christmas gifts. In last week's issue Miss Vicky Lorrie was thanked for her Christmas gifts. This should have read: Little Miss Victoria Lorie.

The Terriers.

At the meeting on Sunday last, Dick Henderson officiated as W.T., George Wisdom as V.T., W. Norman G.C., Tom Reno W.I., Eddie Gray W.D., Neil McKay Y.B., and Arthur Were, secretary. A hearty welcome was extended to the President, Albert Voyce, Neil McKay, Eric Vernon and Will Page upon their reappearance in the Kennel. Mr. George Beachcroft was initiated into the mysteries of the order, Terrier Joe Adkin, P.W.T., acting as sponsor.

Braddy Shaw has passed the ballot.

The annual general meeting and election of officers will be held on Sunday, Feb. 20, at 6 p.m.

A banquet will be held on Good Friday at the Hotel Boulogne, Gerrard Street. Full particulars will be forwarded to all Terriers in due course.

Subscriptions for 1921 are now due.

Will Collinson's New Sketch.

This week at Collins's, Will Collinson produced an entirely new sketch, "'Enery's 'Oliday," which was given a preliminary run a few weeks ago at the Ardwick Empire. This original burlesque in two scenes was given a hearty reception on Monday.

Record Congratulations.

Norman Lee desires through our columns to return thanks for over three hundred cards and letters wishing him prosperity and congratulating him on past successes, which he received during the Christmas season from clients and members of the profession generally.

Comedian in the Lectern.

After looking in upon the old folks at Brinsworth on Sunday, Mr. Charles Coborn paid a visit to the Chaplain in the afternoon, and was invited to read the lessons at the evening service at All Saints', Twickenham, a duty which he performed with his accustomed efficiency. Mr. Coborn, by the way, is arranging a series of concerts for the Victory Corps, formerly known as the Women's Auxiliary Force, and the first will be given at the Automobile Club on Jan. 12.

Josephine La Barte.

That delightful entertainer at the piano, Josephine La Barte, made her reappearance in town on Monday at the Shepherd's Bush Empire, and scored a big hit. She has some excellent numbers, and has a fine concluding item, "Come to the Jazz Ball," which was a particular hit.

Jen Latona Sails.

Last Friday Jen Latona, accompanied by Frank and Madeline, sailed for her third trip to South Africa, and will not be seen in town until May next, when she opens at the London Coliseum. By the same boat, Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait, and the Two Junes sailed for a tour on the same circuit.

Sammy Shields.

It is some time since Sammy Shields, the merry Scot, appeared in town, and his reception at the Victoria Palace on Monday was of the most enthusiastic description. Sammy will remain with us for three months and returns to the L.T.V. tour next week.

Du-Calion.

Described by one management as the "priceless piffler on a perch," Du-Calion has forsaken pantomime this year, and is this week re-appearing at the Victoria Palace, and on Monday week returns to the London Coliseum.

For South Africa.

The following artists sailed from Southampton on Friday last, the 31st ult., per R.M.S. Balmoral Castle, to fulfil engagements with the African Theatres Trust, Ltd., booked by the I.V.T.A., Ltd.:—Cooper and Lait, Jen Latona, and Sisters June.

Wood Green Empire.

Mr. Wilkie Bard, who is top of the bill at this popular house for the current week, was unfortunately unable to appear on Monday evening. Coram, who deputised for the popular comedian, gave his very diverting ventriloquial act to the delight of the audience. The other artists who contibued to a fine evening's enertainment were Manuel Vega, Tex McLeod, Finlay Dunn, Charles Berkeley, and Nellie Turner, Molly Maguire, and Frank Elliston and Co., in their successful farce, "Dear Old Bean!"

In our notice of "Cinderella" at the Willesden Hippodrome, last week, a reference was made to the smart toe dancing of Baby Ambert. We are now advised that this part was taken by Vera Adéle, aged 10 years.

EXPLOITATION OF ARTISTS ABROAD.

V.A.F. WARNING.

Mr. Albert Voyce, Chairman of V.A.F., asks us to warn music-hall artists against too readily accepting engagements with troupes of concert parties booked abroad. Before accepting such engagements, artists should consult the officials of the Federation. It is common knowledge that certain managers of such troupes have engaged young artists at miserable salaries for the purpose of exploiting them in foreign countries. The Federation has, however, succeeded on more than one occasion in preventing passports being issued to such managers, or has compelled them to pay their artists salaries which were adequate to meet the cost of living in the countries concerned. Only a few days ago, one of these unscrupulous individuals stranded a young artist at Antwerp, and she had to seek the protection and assistance of the British Consul, who kindly paid her fare back to England. When she arrived in London, she was practically penniless, and had to be assisted by the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund. Mr. Albert Voyce communicated the facts of the case to the Passport Office, and the result is that the V.A.F. will in future be able to prevent any doubtful individual from obtaining passports for the purpose of exploiting young persons abroad. Mr. Herbert S. Martin, of the Passport Office, recently wrote Mr. Voyce as follows:—

"I need scarcely say that as far as we can properly withhold passports, we are most anxious to prevent the exploitation of artists at an insufficient salary in foreign countries. In any case concerned with music-hall artists, and in which our examiners have reason to doubt the bona fides of a contract, or the sufficiency of the salary offered, I have given instructions to our examiners that they shall take advantage of your offer of assistance."

This means that in future all doubtful applications of heads of music-hall troupes for passports to foreign countries will be subject to the recommendation of the V.A.F. It should be borne in mind, however, that the recommendation of the Federation in all such cases will be tantamount to a guarantee that the artists are going to a bonâ-fide engagement, and that they will be sufficiently paid.

Cheltenham Staff Entertained.

Mr. N. G. Beard, the popular proprietor of the Coliseum, Cheltenham, and the Picture House, North Street, after the second house on Tuesday, Dec. 28, entertained the whole of his staff and the artists working on the programme to a dinner and dance. A company numbering over 70 spent a very enjoyable evening. Supporting Mr. Beard was A. H. Greenland, his popular manager, Mr. Nat Day, his London representative, Frank Merrill, the stage director, and Mr. J. H. Shackleton, the conductor.

During the evening Mr. Beard was presented by Mr. Greenland with a silver cigarette case, suitably incribed, from the whole of the staff. Mr. Beard expressed his appreciation of the gift and said he hoped that the relations between himself and the staff would continue to be as happy as they had been in the past. He felt sure that both he and his staff did everything possible for the artists visiting Cheltenham, so that they could go away knowing that they had had a happy and comfortable week.

A Popular Manager.

At the Hippodrome, Keighley, on Christmas Eve, Mr. J. Austin Walshaw, resident manager, was presented with a handsome tea service, and a pair of vases, from the staff. Mr. W. Marston, the stage manager, in making the presentation, spoke of the good feeling which existed between the front of the house staff and the stage hands. Mr. Walshaw returned thanks in a happy little speech.

MY MUSIC HALL TOUR.

STARS WHO HAVE ASSISTANTS—SNEEZING TO ORDER—THE SWEDISH BALLET AT THE PALACE.

I always doff my metaphorical hat to music hall stars who, though quite capable of carrying everything on their own shoulders, surround themselves with a company of lesser lights—unless the lesser lights are so considerably less that they are employed merely for the advantage of comparison. In that case I keep my hat on as firmly as a red-hot Socialist does while "God Save the King" is being played. George Carney is one of our best comedians, and there is not the slightest obligation on his part to give us anyone in addition to himself, but he does so to the tune of four merry men, and his merry men are all first-class humorists. He is not in the least afraid of comparisons. His idea is to introduce as much fun and talent as he can into his turn, and to let those who make the laughs have the credit for them.

At the Holborn Empire.

I saw George last week at the Holborn Empire—which, by the way, is being spring-cleaned. Both his sketches were new to me, and both were very excellent. The count who has no account is an amusing study of an impecunious optimist, and incidentally introduces a delightful paper-boy; while the Italian who sells ice-cream and has his till stolen is perhaps the best thing he has ever done. All his assistants acted splendidly, and he proved one of the biggest successes of the evening.

Ernie Mayne, the popular comedian, who followed, was another great favourite, his two songs being heartily acclaimed. Ernest Hastings is an old friend who always sings his songs with polish, and never fails to tickle his audience; and Tom Edwards, the huntsman ventriloquist, I have mentioned many a time and oft in these columns. I want to record the fact, however, that Tom gets better and better every time I see him, and this applies not only to his ventriloquism, but to his dialogue. He has introduced a lot of new stuff into his sketch, and a good deal of it was impromptu. Oh, yes, I know something about accomplices in the audience, but you can't sneeze to order. Unless, after all, one uses snuff.

Ann Gray gave an effective performance, singing old songs while accompanying herself on the harp. The Nocturnes, in an appropriate setting of midnight stars, mixed up with grand pianos and lamps, gave another good musical turn.

Compliments to Adams and Lee, who opened the programme with their entertaining conjuring, and the Three Walkers, who ended the programme with a remarkably clever exhibition of—how does one describe these things Let me consult the programme—of "phenomenal acrobatic equilibristicality." Besides being phenomenal and acrobatic, it was artistic.

At the Palace.

From Holborn I took a trip to the Palace, because everybody is talking about the Swedish Ballet, and I must talk about it, too. When watching foreign productions, one has to guard against the danger of confusing genius with "local colour," and of interest which is held by merit with interest which is merely caught by novelty. When the two are combined we have the perfect entertainment, and box-offices thrive, but when they are not, we must find out exactly what it was that fixed our attention.

It may be said at once that, as dancers pure and simple, the Swedish dancers do not equal the Russians. They are less lithe, and more "woodeny." But they are tremendously interesting, often surprise one by their conceptions, and have a sense of humour which is delightfully portrayed in their concluding item, "Les Vierges Folies." The story is based upon a legend, and introduces a bride, deliciously played by Mlle. Jenny Hasselquist, and ten virgins, five wise and five foolish. The latter allow their thoughts to stray, with the result that their lamps go out and they are barred from the temple by two angels.

Equally good were the tableaux of life in Spain, which showed the dancers in a different mood, and gave a vivid picture of Spanish life.

The most important item on their programme was "Maison de Fous," of which I witnessed the first performance. It is based upon the idea that all the people in the world are mad, saving in their own eyes, and that even Innocence, when she appears among them, has no power to alter them, but becomes tinged herself at last and dies. As an exaggerated satire, based upon an undeniable truth, the theme is a fine one, but the effect conveyed across the footlights was not dissimilar to that of an ordinary lunatic asylum ripe for the Grand Guignol! I was glad I did not notice any children in the audience, for they would assuredly have returned to bad dreams. I confess I had one myself.

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SONGS AND SINGERS.

B. Feldman and Co.

Reports from all pantomime sources prove that Feldman's songs are first favourites everywhere. "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles" is an outstanding song of the season, and other big successes from the Arthur-street list are "Let the Rest of the World Go By," "Oh! What a Pal Was Mary," "Oo La La Wee Wee," "Oh! What a Difference the Navy's Made to Me," "Open Your Heart and Let the Sunshine In," "You Know What I Mean," "Underneath the Wishing Moon," "Who's Coming to the Tartan Ball?" "Movieland," "Down in Dear Old Georgia Town," "There's No Light Like the Moonlight," "Up in Mabel's Room," and "Bom Bom Bom Bhe."

Fred Barnes has made a sensational success in the Coliseum pantomime, Glasgow, with "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles," "Oh! What a Pal Was Mary," "Oo La La Wee Wee," and "Up in Mabel's Room."

June Mills writes from St. John's, New Brunswick: "'Raggedy Doo,' 'Tartan Ball,' and 'Jazz Picker' going big here." The De-Rewski Girls, a smartly-costumed act, score heavily with "You Know What I Mean." Jack Corom makes a wonderful feature of "Let the Rest of the World Go By" as a cornet solo. The Winfields write: "We have introduced 'Let the Rest of the World Go By' into Jazon and Montgomery's panto., 'Robinson Crusoe,' and it is quite the winner of the show."

John Tiller's "Red Riding Hood" panto. at Hanley Theatre Royal has Sandy Powell working, with his usual brilliance, "You Must Turn a Winkle Upside Down." Hilda Claremont, principal girl in Jack Clifton's "Dick Whittington," is making a feature of "Bom Bom Bom Bhe." Charles Kitchen, musical director George Sax's productions, reports "Down in Dear Old Georgia Town" a big success in panto. at the Palace Theatre, Brighton. "Poor Old Father" is being featured in Dublin's "Sinbad the Sailor." May Royal is singing "Oh! What a Difference the Navy's Made to Me" as her principal song in panto.

Midge Wood, principal boy in "A Peep Into Fairyland," which opened at Kidderminster on Dec. 20, is featuring successfully "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles," "She Was Wonderful," and "California and You" (special scene). Jack Clements writes: "We are featuring 'Oo La La Wee Wee' in 'Cinderella' at the Opera House, Cheltenham."

Star Music Company.

The Star Company's pantomime successes are well in evidence all over the country. Letters of congratulation and telegrams from various artists name the outstanding winners—"Your Wonderful Heart of Gold," "If We Found a Little Corner in This Great Big World," "There's a Little Bit of Devil in Ev'ry Little Angel," "Cupid Plays the Dickens With Us All," and "Why Did You Teach Me To Love You?" Fred Barnes is making a great success at the Coliseum, Glasgow, with "There's a Little Bit of Devil in Ev'ry Little Angel." At the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, Nancy Benyon and Agnes Croxton are featuring "If We Found a Little Corner in This Great Big World." J. H. Wakefield is making good with "Cupid Plays the Dickens With Us All" in John Hart's production of "Mother Goose" at the Theatre Royal, Manchester. Madge White and Gabriel Ray are also very successful with "If We Found a Little Corner in This Great Big World." Margot Howard (the Fairy), in Fred Warden's "Sinbad" production at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, reports an enormous success with "Your Wonderful Heart of Gold."

At the Olympia, Shoreditch, last week, in Bransgrove and Slaughter's "Aladdin" pantomime, the "Star" songs were well to the fore. Vera Rejane (Aladdin) scored an instantaneous success with "Your Wonderful Heart of Gold." "If We Found a Little Corner in This Great Big World," featured by Vera Rejane and Primrose Hill, received a big reception. Violet Grey is singing "Your Wonderful Heart of Gold"; Ivy Morgan "There's a Little Bit of Devil in Ev'ry Little Angel," and Elsie Sims and Ruby Goodwin "If We Found a Little Corner in This Great Big World."

Ena Fay is doing well with "There's a Little Bit of Devil in Ev'ry Little Angel" in Arthur Watson's "Bonnie Boy Blue" pantomime at the New Theatre, Boston. George Bass and Phyllis Deane are featuring with great success "If We Found a Little Corner in This Great Big World" at the Theatre Royal, Bradford.

Lawrence Wright Music Co.

Many wires and letters of congratulation have been received by the Lawrence Wright Music Company since the opening of the pantomime season, and it is impossible to include even half of them in the space at disposal. In every part of the country Lawrence Wright songs have proved everything claimed for them during the last few months.

"Wyoming Lullaby" is undoubtedly one of the biggest successes of the year. Miss Phyllis Beadon, the principal girl, wires that this song is a tremendous hit in Fred Warden's pantomime at the Opera House, Belfast. Other popular favourites who are using it with enormous success are Miss Mona Vivien at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, Miss Audrey Thacker at the Theatre Royal, Bradford, Miss Leila Wood at the Prince's, Bristol, Miss Madeline Selwin at the Theatre Royal, Exeter, Miss Nellie Gallafent at the Theatre Royal, Leeds, Miss Kathleen Boutall at the Repertory Theatre, Nottingham, and it is also being given as a duet at the Theatre Royal and the Grand Theatre, Plymouth; in Bannister Howard's production at the Opera House, Southport, by Miss Ouida MacDermot at the Kennington Theatre, in Mr. Fredricks' production at the Boro' Theatre, Stratford, and by Miss Yvette Cazman at the Grand Theatre, Croydon.

Wires and letters on the success of "Wyoming" have also been received from the Marina Theatre, Lowestoft, where it is featured by Miss Gladys Sewell and Miss Gladys Augarde, from Bert Lawrie at the Hippodrome, Birkenhead, and Bert Castle at the Palace, Redditch.

Miss Victoria Carmen, writing from the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, where she is playing principal boy, states that "I'm Coming Back to Li'l Old London" is an outstanding hit of the show, and that she has made a record success of it." This number is also proving one of the big chorus hits at the Palace, Manchester, where it is being sung by Miss Dorothy Ward.

Francis and Day's.

Lily Edwards, the London Lyceum's dashing Robin Hood in the current "Babes" annual, is singing "Swanee" with marked success, and at the King's, Hammersmith, Elsie May, the Polly Primrose of "Robinson Crusoe," is warbling the same song with similar result. Syd Franks, who is in turn a farmer's boy, a stowaway, and Man Friday, singing "Sam the Sailor." "Oh, by Jingo! Oh, by Gee!" has a worthy exponent in Midge Bradfield as Mistress Crusoe.

At the Kennington, Dainty Doris, a delightful Alice in "Whittington," is heard to great advantage in "Swanee," Dick Tubb, the Dame, causing much hearty laughter with "The Gipsy Warned Me." "Swanee" is again to the fore in the Elephant and Castle's "Dick Whittington," Cissie Astbury, who enacts the part of Margery Mavis, being the singer. Ted Young, here, is going strong with "Everyone Calls Me Tarzan." Raie and Rosie Waters, the sprighty Ganem and Morgiana of the Surrey "Forty Thieves," in "Swanee" have a real "winner," whilst Selig and Hart, the comic policemen, have, in "What About Your Old-Fashioned Father?" an item that makes for laughter.

At Wimbledon Leslie Sarony, the Baron of Mr. Mulholland's "Cinderella," is singing both the numbers last mentioned with vim and vigour, the result in each instance being gratifying in the extreme. "Swanee" is also largely in evidence in "Aladdin" at the Borough, Stratford, Ethel Holden, the principal boy, getting it over in fine style, and evoking much applause for "Blushing Moon," sharing the honours with Elsie Carlisle, the Princess, who joins her in it. "The Gipsy Warned Me" is here in the safe hands of Charles E. Paton, the Dame.

At Chelsea last week Violet Levy and Anna Thayer, principals in Burlesque Productions' "Jack and the Beanstalk," rendered "Swanee" in fine style as a duet.

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THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE COLISEUM.

"Nursery Rhymes," the new production with which Mme. Tamara Karsavina returned to the Coliseum on Monday, are dance interpretations—the inventions of C. Lovat Fraser—introducing well-known old acquaintances of childhood's days. The rhymes are made to go to music by Schubert, for no reason that one can see. Of course, there is no objection to Schubert's music, as music, but surely strains more appropriate to English folk-stories might have been discovered nearer the land of their origin. The production owes less to the art of the scenic artist than others in which the famous Russian dancer has appeared, and perhaps because the eye of the observer is less occupied with colour "effects," he is better able to appreciate Mme. Karsavina's greatest quality—the power to draw character in dance. There was no doubt about the independence of spirit of "Jumping Joan." Although "always alone," she could be, and was, perfectly happy, and she showed us that she was in delightfully don't-carish fashion. M. Novikoff, Mme. Karsavina's associate, in "The Pirate," gives us Robert Louis' industrious gentleman of the high seas, who turns out to be an edition of Captain Hook. After "sweeping the horizon" and gloating over his "pot of gold," he retires to respectability among his neighbours, and to industrious terpsichorean flirtations with his neighbours' daughters, in demure poke-bonnets and long-enveloping skirts, by an octette of dancers from the Mayfair School of Ballet. Together Mme. Karsavina and M. Novikoff appear as the two blackbirds, Jack and Jill, in which their limb flutterings, jumps, and skimmings over the ground are as bird-like as human imitations can be, and their nigger-brown and fawn dresses are a delightful study in tone values.

"The Queen of Hearts" brings on the whole company—Mme. Karsavina domestically diligent in tart making, M. Novikoff most bold and knavish as he who stole those tarts, and M. Veselow as the hungry King, and the corps de ballet as the frightened maids of honour in waiting. The Two Flunkeys, though they only set the stage, are an important part of the show. They dance remarkably well—in fact, both of them seem in a fair way to become Karsavinas.

The bill is a cheery one—a good beginning to the New Year. The Ceylons come first with their comedy absurdity, "No Man's Land," which, though a "war" turn, does not get out of date. It is uproariously funny. Alec Daimler and Dora Eadie do wonderfully well with rather poor burlesque material. Both have good voices, and the lady's yodelling is attractive. "Bichette," the sea-lion comedienne, assisted by Billy Judge, probably the last word in animal intelligence, makes one of the biggest successes. The Reynolds and Donegan Company carry skate-dancing to a fine art; Frank Nolan and Louis Holt, sharing musical and real comedy talent between them, give a capital sing-song composed of rag-time medleys and duets, with burlesqued bits of Dickens amusingly thrown in between; Tameo Kajiyama, the "Mental Marvel," returns to show astonished Londoners what mind concentration can accomplish; Grock, in holiday mood, puts unexpected bits into his ever-welcome turn which surprise and amuse his partner as much as they do his audience; and the Three Nesios wind up with a fine gymnastic and comedy display.

THE PALLADIUM.

The fine programme here drew a capacity house on Monday. Little Tich's "Vive l'Angleterre" ditty is exceedingly funny, and his Lady presented at Court is well known to habitués. Lorna and Toots Pounds, the clever and delightful Australian entertainers, give a varied assortment of imitations, and added to a wonderful gift of mimicry, Toots and Lorna both have very pretty voices. "Chu Chin Chow," José Collins in the Cigarette song from "The Southern Maid," Mrs. Pat Campbell in a scene from "Bella Donna," G. P. Huntley and a friend, all serve as vehicles for the display of their wit, observation and versatility. They also appear as themselves in several song and dance items, including "The Tin-Can Jazz."

Ernie Lotinga and company appear here in their screamer "All Crooks," in which Ernie keeps the audience in roars of laughter as the new butler, and is well supported by his excellent company. The inimitable Marie Lloyd in chic Parisian gowns, and clever character studies, is given the heartiest of welcomes. She sang "The End of a Perfect Day," "One of the Ruins," and "I'm a Good Girl Now." Whit Cunliffe, brown, bright, and breezy, is as popular as ever in his crisp, incisive style, aided by some capital songs. Max Darewski, most brilliant of pianists and composers, gives selections from his repertoire in characteristic fashion. The Faynes in their unusuality in a conservatory are vastly diverting, and the American Southern Syncopated Orchestra and Singers, under the conductorship of Lieut. E. R. Thompson, conclude.

VICTORIA PALACE.

There is no mistaking Du Calion's popularity, and his frequent visits to the Victoria Palace are more successful each time. On Monday evening he kept the house roaring with laughter by his patter on the tottering ladder, so much so that the audience forgot to hold its breath at the intrepidity of his balancing feats. Du Calion's turn is one of those unique things in vaudeville that will claim a place on any bill for sheer originality. That dainty little lady, Miss Cicely Courtneidge, is another great favourite here, and her three Cameos, "I Didn't Understand," "I Can't Find a Home, Sweet Home," and "I'm a Hunter," the last with the capable help of Miss Evelyn Trevor and Mr. Claude Noel, were loudly applauded. Mr. Talbot O'Farrell, most genial and witty of entertainers, had his usual big reception for his delightfully rendered songs and most amusing and inimitably told stories. His song, "If an Apple Tempted Adam," makes a good opening to his turn.

Sammy Shields was in splendid form, and his remarks on ragtime seemed to find an echo in the feelings of the audience. His football alphabet, a sort of stop press column of information, made a great impression as the closing number. The musical item this week is supplied by Mr. H. J. Corner's "Symphonia." It is one of the most delightfully arranged acts of the kind on the halls, and is a tribute to the good taste of an audience. The names of the six performers were not given on the programme, but they are all capable musicians. The most popular items were Mr. Corner's song, "Because I Were Shy," the excellently rendered violin solo and the two operatic duets.

The other items this week include Mr. Tom E. Hughes, the Rag-bag of Variety, who scores so well with his "Devil-may-care" number; Mr. Victor Andre, one of the best male dancers we have seen for a long time; the original Heraldas, the Danish acrobat; and Bonnie May, a pretty little comedienne and dancer.

THE GRANVILLE.

That clever and entertaining juggler, Frank Sylvo, opens the excellent bill here, and is followed by Bunny and Dawe, a pigeon pair, whose turn includes some clever concertina work and cat impersonations. Lovers of step dancing should not miss the next turn, The Four Kemptons, who exploit that genus of terpsichorean art with a rare vim and an exhilarating quickness of tempo.

For brightness and vivacity the talented couple, Paul Witt and May Stevens, have few equals. They have a bright new opening number, "Rock-a-Bye, Baby," and, of course, such of their old favourites as "A Good Man is Hard to Find" and Paul's pianoforte pot-pourri go like hot cakes. Paul and May absolutely had to concede an encore. An interesting turn is provided by Mr. Oswald Bemand, whose performing pigeons constitute something almost unparalleled in bird training.

Miss Pearl Mitchell, the clever young violiniste, was one of the hits of the evening. The brilliance of her technique and her fine mastery of tone-colour quickly endeared her in the audience's hearts. Perhaps the most heartily applauded of her selections was one of Michiel's "Czardas." Congratulations to Miss Pearl and her accompaniste-sister for an artistic triumph. After Miss Florence Cooper had successfully rendered a couple of chorus songs the evening was brought to an hilarious conclusion by the Hengler Brothers, whose mélange of juggling and acrobatics had the merit of being genuinely funny.

THE METROPOLITAN.

Prominent in this week's bill at the "Met." are a pair of lively and versatile entertainers, Vine and Russell, whose merry turn found immediate favour with the house on Monday evening. Their attraction lies chiefly in the spontaneity of their humour, some sparkling numbers, and their method of "putting them over." In addition it should be mentioned that all their numbers have a refreshing air of originality about them, whilst we must not omit a word of appreciation for their excellent lady accompanist, Pat Rene. Then there is Ethel Castaldini, the musical comedy favourite whose programme description—"with personality—song—voice"—seems to call for amplification. As regards personality, undoubtedly one of much charm; voice—well developed, pleasing delivery and sweet tone; songs—every one obviously to the liking of the Metropolitan audience—in short, a songstress with all the assets of a successful artist.

In the humorous vein came T. E. Dunville, Fred Keeton, and Dan Eden. The famous long comedian, was very popular. Fred Keeton, with a priceless comic fireman number, consisting of parodies on well-known songs, and ending up with "That Old-Fashioned Fire-Station of Mine"; and Dan Eden, a sprightly "dame" comedian, relating, after the manner of his kind, "her" matrimonial experiences; all of which laughter-makers add considerably to the jollity of the evening. The Four Swifts, in their comedy juggling act, are an excellent example of skill and humour going hand in hand; some of their club-throwing feats are indeed marvellous. The programme is completed by Jean and Jacques, contortionists, and Iris and Phyllis; the latter a couple of juvenile entertainers, talented and with plenty of self-assurance, but not, as is often the case with child artists, without that indescribable charm of childhood.

KILBURN EMPIRE.

The Kilburn Empire is keping up its high standard of entertainment this week. George Mozart tops the bill and is giving besides his Scout Band, and types of everyday life, a new—to us—little act called "The Prodigal Son's Return," which shows how one acts for the stage and cinema, according to George Mozartian theories. He is accorded a great reception.

Then to foot this excellent bill is "Pimple" (himself), with his popular players in a sketch called "Father." Pimple, being charged by an officer for unprovoked assault on a sergeant, and for "using language not contained in the King's Regulations," and who complained in return that he was bullied all day, and had bully even at mess, is a sight no one should miss. He is tremendously popular.

The McKays dance and sing and make merry in their own delightful way. They are as clever as ever, and there is not a dull moment in their act. Johnson Clark introduces an original ventriloquial scena, "Wishing Well Farm." This set is charming, and he works three figures at once. Giles (a yokel boy, an old farmer, and a donkey. The latter does not talk, but moves his eyes and ears realistically. The jokes are fast and furious.

Shirley Whyte, the Comedy Comet, is full of personality. Her two songs, "I Am Glad I Took My Ma's Advice" and "When the Sun Goes Down in Dear Old Dixie" "got over" at once. She is a witty little lady who sings, dances, and patters equally well.

Others contributing to this cheery bill are the Three Mahers, expert dancers; Alec Kendal, the popular comedian, with his topical jokes and clever dances, and George Gilby, the Lancashire comedian.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

Mr. James Molloy is presenting a fine programme here this week. At the top of the bill we have George Mozart, who had a big reception. His drama, "The Prodigal Son's Return," as shown on stage and cinema, was very funny. As an encore he gave sketches of character, as "Walking to the Scouts Band." Thora is a very novel ventriloquist, his vocal number being specially good. Ernest Hastings was a great favourite with "The Wife That Sat Up," "No Rise in the Price of Sunshine," and "How to Compose a Song." The Michel Bros. deputised for the De Breans, and proved a clever pair of hand balancers. Florence Desmond, who deputised for Madeline Hamson, is an excellent male impersonator, and scored with "Oh, Mother, You Would Not Know Your Child" and "Blame Mary Ann," giving as an encore "I'm a Wonderful Girl." Eric Randolph gave an original vagabond act, which did justice to his fine tenor voice. "It's a Wonderful Song," composed by himself, secured him an enthusiastic curtain. Daisy James delighted all with her renderings of "I Want Someone to Love Me," "I Try to Be as Good as I Can Be," concluding with "My Old Man is Out Upon the Spree." Harry Champion sang "Mother Brown," "Where Did You Get Your Collar?" and another number, and met with his usual very hearty reception; and Merle's Cockatoos gave a clever performance in an artistic setting.

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PROVINCIAL CENTRES.

BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES. — P., Prince of Wales Theatre (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Philip Rodway; A. M., Mr. G. D. Bradbury; Mus. D., Mr. H. Rushworth.—The musical comedy, "Irene," is here for the holiday season, and Miss Billie Browne gives an accomplished performance in the title-role. She adds great point to the dialogue and sings sweetly. As Mme. Lucy, the modiste, Mr. Harry Ray is killing, and with the Misses Browne, Bibi Delabere and Hilda Harris as models, provided any amount of fun. Miss Delabere danced gracefully and sang nicely, and another favourite here, Mr. Algernon West, gave a careful study of the hero. Miss Tilly Foulds was convincing as Mrs. O'Dare. Other characters were adequately sustained by the Misses Sadie Jerome, Alma Lee, Hilda Harris and Kathleen D'Arcy, with Messrs. G. La Touche, L. de Renzi, Harry W. Bentham as the person with designs on Irene, and Norman Macan as the millionaire who wishes to find favour with her also.

EMPIRE. — P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Henry Raymond; A. M., Mr. Philip Giles; Mus. D., Mr. G. Clegg. — "The jolly little Dutch girl from England," May Moore Duprez, includes her latest Scottish character-studies in her delightful repertoire, and the Horatio Nicholls Quintette, in their musical scena, prove very popular in an attractive performance. Will Gardner, the camouflage comedian, acts up to his title, and Mutt and Jeff, as All Blacks, add to the merriment. In addition Wilson Hallett gives some capital studies of juveniles; Southwood and the lady appear in a welcome vaudeville act; and Mme. Delamere's Table Circus of small animals is not least of the good turns.

GRAND. — P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; M., Mr. H. J. Crane; Mus. D., Mr. Gilbert Smith. — Quite distinctive is the performance of the Royal Southern Singers Quartette, with their extraordinarily capable orchestra. Next on the bill is Albert Vivian Peake and company. They also give a musical scena, "One Fleeting Hour," and, like the Southern Singers, have given a Royal command performance. Laughable effects are obtained by Percy Mayne and Jack Sheridan (as the wise jesters), sons of notable fathers. Arthur Pond, the Five Nuts (in "Fun in a Schoolroom"), and Beaucaire's Butlers, in comedy juggling, also contribute light-hearted amusement, and Wm. Utteridge presents his posing animals in a hunt story.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—P., Aston Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Percy Whitton; Mus. D., Mr. W. Griffin.—The D'Arcy Woolven Trio display good taste in old melodies; Austin Rudd retains a fund of humour, as one expects of the singer of "Sailors Don't Care"; and Sue Joyce, as the perfect lady, charms her audience. Then there are Billie Housini and Nellie as the Black Admiral and lady balancer; Chicken and Rose, in their equilibristic performance with a Pom; and those laughable acrobats, Manuel and Francois. Armstrong and Howarth also provide comedy with a distinct flavour.

BORDESLEY GREEN ELITE.—P., Messrs. Cooke, Copeland and Rogers; R. M., Mr. F. Simpson; Mus. D., Mr. A. Bradshaw. — The Six Musical Navvies, with the chic and gay Miss Phill Sidney as the star, give a bright show, and the Copelands are responsible for some excellent singing. Reg Ewen, the happy-go-lucky comedian, serves up a delectable dish, and the Two Le Bergs, in their dental gymnastics, give their amazing performance, including the human spinning-top. Slater and Rene also contribute a capital programme with their coon songs and dances—the latter as the orignal coloured kid.

Boots, The Chemists, 52, New-street; 167, Broad-street; 100-101, Smallbrook-street; 266-288, Gooch-street; 171, Bloomsbury-street; 459, Moseley-road; Colmore-row and Bull-street.

GLASGOW.

ROYAL PRINCESSES.—P. & M., Mr. Rich. Walden; T. & A. M., Mr. Hugh Murdock.—The popularity of the pantomime, "Peter Piper," presented by Harry McKelvie, is already assured. A strong cast is headed by Miss Connie Browning in the title-rôle, ably assisted by Miss Gertie Hall and Misses Edie and Gladys Maple, their singing being a strong feature. Other notables are Jas. and Peter Birmingham, Bret Harte and Tommy Lorne, four members of the combination who provide the laughter-provoking element. The remaining members who give able assistance are Miss Vi Railton, Miss Louise Cecil, and Messrs. J. C. Glenroy, Johnny Mackay, and George Vix.

METROPOLE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Arthur Jefferson; R. M., Mr. John Walker; A. M., Mr. Cyril Mascard.—For the second week of his visit Mr. Oswald Cray is playing a new drama entitled "The Other Man's Child."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Parry (pro tem.); A. M., Mr. H. L. Bell; M. D., Mr. Henry Farmer.—This week's programme includes the marvellous magical entertainment of Oswald Williams, assisted by Miss Rae Warwick. Also here are Billy Leonard, the broth of a boy; Macrae and Laport, the flying Scotsmen; Takio, animal mimic; Gertrude Eadie and Ramsden, featuring "All in Fun"; and the Four Richards; and Vivian Foster, the vicar of mirth.

PAVILION, LTD. — M., Mr. J. Kirkpatrick; Mus. D., Mr. R. Fulton Steel.—Fred Collins's charming panto., "Mother Goose," is proving most attractive holiday fare. Dora Lindsay in the title-rôle is a great source of merriment, and Miss Hetty Evelyn as the Prince has endeared herself to local audiences. Power and Bendon in comedy parts work hard.

OLYMPIA. — Lessees, Artistes' Agency, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. David Bowie. — Still another pantomime makes its appearance here, this week's novelty being Mr. Harry M'Kelvie, "Tommy Trotter" production. Lots of fun is provided by a good company, headed by Mr. Sandy Conner and Miss Rita Moya.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; A. M., Mr. Arthur Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Jullien H. Wilson. — The pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," is now in full running order, and doing great business.

SHAKESPEARE.—L. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Herbert M. King; Mus. D., Mr. Bertram Srawley.—The decision of Mr. W. W. Kelly to again have a long season of grand opera, instead of pantomime, has proved an exceedingly wise one, for public patronage of the O'Mara Company is exceptionally good, and there is little doubt that their stay of ten weeks will turn out a big success. The current programme contains "Rusticana" and "Pagliacci," "Samson and Delilah," and other well-known operas.

PLAYHOUSE.—P., Liverpool Repertory Theatre Co., Ltd.; L. & M., Mr. A. S. Pigott; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Smith.—The fairy play, "Once Upon a Time," is being given before large and highly-delighted audiences.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; L. & M., Mr. George Manners; Mus. D., Mr. Felix Arthur.—The top line here is Daphne Pollard, the favourite little comedienne, who makes a first appearance in Liverpool. Preliminary announcements concerning her aroused many expectations in the minds of those who had not seen the talented artist in "Zig Zag," and these expectations were fully realised, for on Monday evening Miss Pollard carried her audience with her. Winston's water lions and diving nymphs went through a remarkable performance, which was received with applause from all parts of the house. Well-merited recognition was given to the Gresham Singers, who provided a really artistic musical treat; as novelty gymnasts the Four Mackwells would be hard to beat; Harold Walden had some good songs and stories at the piano; Newhouse and Partner showed themselves daring cyclists; and Jack Boot, comedian, also appeared.

OLYMPIA.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. James M. Buchanan; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Moore.—Wylie and Tate's splendid pantomime of "Dick Whittington" has caught on, and is doing big business.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Chas. Gulliver; M. & L., Mr. E. W. James; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Stokes.—The always welcome Bransby Williams is foremost in the programme, affording large audiences great delight with his popular characters; the pretty and neat Pierrot turn given by the Quaints meets with general acceptance; Strad delights everybody with his violin work; the Three Van Dammes please as much as ever, their scene from "Happy Holland" earning for them rounds of applause; Woodward and Page are a couple of excellent comedy cyclists; and Arthur Ferris presents complete comedy character studies in song form.

ROTUNDA.—M., Mr. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. John Hitchins; Mus. D., Mr. George Dibbert.—A special attraction is foremost here in Zona Vevey and Max Erard, a couple of artists who afford enjoyment wherever they appear; Cosgrove and Burns are a diverting sporting comedy duo; and other very acceptable turns in the bill are Galetto, with comedy juggling, conjuring, and lightning pictures; Jack Blair, character comedian; Darty and Partner, in a Humpsti-Bumpsti act; and George E. Carnell, light character comedian.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. M., Mr. Edward M. Hamilton; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Walker.—Here this week Messrs. Jazon and Montgomery's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," is the attraction, and on Monday evening two large audiences showed their appreciation of its merits. Principals in the cast are Dolsey Cariello (Crusoe), Ford and Lewis (comedians), Fred Brand (Friday), Edward Hess (Cannibal King), and Ettenoy and Lavelle (Jack Salt and Salty Jim).

LYRIC.—L., Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; M., Mr. H. C. Arnold; Mus. D., Mr. Cleaver Howard.—Pantomime is the menu here in the form of "Dick Whittington," sent by Mr. Leo Leon, among the chief players being Rolando Martin (Idle Jack), Agnes Marchard (Dick), Denby and Dent (comedians), Fred Lyndo (Fitzwarren), Ada Blanch (Alice), and Max Sylvene (Cat).

Boots, The Chemists, Boots' Corner, Church-st.; 11-13, London-rd.; 1, Leece-st.; 203, Scotland-rd.; 8, West Derby-rd.; 235, Park-rd.; 113, Lodge-lane; 79, Wavertree-rd.; Prudential-buildings, Dale-st.; 45, to 47, Lord-st.

MANCHESTER.

ARDWICK EMPIRE.—M. D., Sir Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. A. C. Duncan; M. C., Mr. R. Hardwick.—Last week's attraction at the neighbouring Hippodrome, "The Circus Queen," is proving a good draw here this week.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE. — P., Messrs. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Jas. Brearley; M. C., Mr. Chas. Wright.—Messrs. Jazon and Montgomery's pantomime, "Aladdin," with Dolly Ross, Ally Benson, Rene Dawson, Harry Dolman, and Melvin and Mayo in the cast, is doing capital business here this week. Lottie Stone's Six Pekin Belles are a feature of the specialities.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Rex Sugden; M. C., Mr. C. H. Bayley.—An attractive variety bill here includes Frank Benson, comedian; Lily Lena, the "fashion-plate" comedienne; Daisy Griff, comedienne; Fred Brezin, the Anglo-French entertainer; Betts and Kaye, in "Troubles"; Paul Thompson, eccentric dancer; Black and Brown, harmony comedians; and Tom Payne, the noted pedestrian, who plays a Stroh violin.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT. — P., Messrs. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Geo. Steel; M. C., Mr. J. Hartley.—Ventom Swift's pantomime, "Mother Goose," is confirming here the high opinion already formed of it by local patrons. Ivy Proudfoot and Serva Dane are principal boy and girl, and at the head of the fun are Dan Lawley, Walter Amner, and Billy Reeve. The entire cast, in fact, is good, and the staging is on a lavish scale.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Alan Young; A. M. & Sec., Mr. Jesse Hewitt; Asst. M., Mr. W. Maclaren; Mus. D., Mr. T. Wrathmall.—The Wylie-Tate pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," enters on its second successful week here.

HIPPODROME. — M. D., Sir Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Bertram Iles; Asst. M., Mr. F. C. Brooks; Advt. M., Mr. D. Forbes Winslow; Mus. D., Mr. Walter Hague.—George Graves and company are at the top of a good bill here in an amusing sketch, "Taken and Wanted"; a musical fantasy, "Dream Stars," presented by Mr. J. B. Taylor, is well done by Henry Wisk, Kathleen Brett, Phœbe Field, and Nellie Victor. Other entertaining turns are those of Ethel Toms, contralto; Sam Barton, Jerry Wilson, J. Edward Pierce and Marie Roslyn, and the Flying Banvards, in a most artistic and sensational comedy gymnastic act.

HULME HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; G. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; R. M., Mr. H. Hearn; A. M., Mr. Harry Boyle; Mus. D., Mr. Edward Jones.—Here the attraction is Messrs. Jazon and Montgomery's grand pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," with the Charles French Troupe of comedy giants.

Boots, The Chemists, 15, 17, and 19, St. Ann-street, St. Ann's-square; 48 and 50, Oldham-street; and 39, Market-street.

SUNDERLAND.

KING'S.—P., Messrs. Thompson and Collins; R. M., Mr. E. Jefferies; Mus. D., Mr. C. Jennings.—Turns are provided by Seque, musical mimic; and Constance Wentworth, Helen Alston, and Frederic Lake, in a musical comedy interlude; and pictures.

EMPIRE.—P., Sunderland Palace Co.; M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden; R. M., Mr. E. A. Barnes; Mus. D., Mr. H. Elliott Smith.—Lew Lake presents "Sons of the Sea." The cast includes Bob Stevens, Grace Lester, Madge Vincent, and Arthur Reece.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden; R. M., Mr. Richard L. Griffiths; Mus. D., Mr. H. Mitchell.—Mr. Albert Sember and company present "The Octoroon," which is attracting good business.

PALACE. — P., Mr. A. G. Hamilton; R. M., Mr. W. Gillespie; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Hubble.—Pictures and the Williards in a special comedy act; and Artemus, comedy illusionist.

Boots, The Chemists, 62, Fawcett-street.

TAUNTON.

EMPIRE.—P., Trust Houses, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Adam Jay.—Les Eldons, sensational equilibrists; Connie and Ethel, singers and dancers; Les Donates, comedy one-legged clowns; George Prince, crazy comedian; the Roland Carter Trio, in vocal comedy scena, "Holidays."

Boots, The Chemists, 55, North-street.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole L. & M., Mr. E. H. Bull; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Jackson. — Mr. Nevill Graham's pantomime, "Dick Whittington," has entered on its second week, and is generally voted to be one of the best seen here.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Kimberley's, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; M., Mr. Edwin T. Kisbey; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Bradley.—Miss Madge Fenton's company in "Happy Hours."

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Bertram J. Seabrook.—Harry Day presents his latest revue, "Flashes."

Boots, The Chemists, 7-8, Queen-street; 82, Chapel Ash.

MISS TEMPLE BELL

who is appearing in "Aladdin" at the Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, has made quite a sensational success with her dancing. We understand a large number of contracts have already been offered to this clever young lady, who will shortly appear at the Aldwych, in Miss Viola Tree's production of "The Tempest."

"AFGAR" AT PENGE.

G. Lewis Waller's Tours, Ltd., by arrangement with Mr. C. B. Cochran, present the London Pavilion success, "Afgar," here this week, and on Monday it played to crowded houses. An excellent cast is engaged for this new tour, which opened at Bognor last week. In Mr. Humphrie's part of Afgar, Mr. Arthur Reynolds does excellently, and gives a very humorous impersonation. Miss Doris Thomas in Mlle. Delysia's part, Zaydee, is a brilliant success. She acts well and sings beautifully, particularly the "You'd Be Surprised" number. Mr. Bert Harland as Don Juan, Junior, is another conspicuous hit, and sings finely "Give the Devil His Due," with chorus of charming ladies assisting. A deal of the comedy falls to Mr. Kevan Bernard as Concourli, and full use he makes of his opportunities. He sings and dances well, and his many antics are full of fun. The Isilda of Miss Hilda Cross is a delightful study of the Spaniard. Miss Cross makes the most of her Spanish number, "Rose of Seville," and throughout acts with conviction. Other parts are well played by Messrs. Edgar A. Hodges, Guy Desmond, Reginald Macauley, and Harry Remington, and Misses Ida Lorraine, Ivy Irwin, Florrie Evans, Kathleen Kelly, Rene Croft, and Dorrie Stuart, whilst a good-looking and fine-singing chorus give able assistance throughout.

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THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

A Good Word for 1920.

Amongst the general execrations showered upon the departed year, it is pleasant to be able to vary the monotony by giving it a meed of praise. In the Showman World the record has been highly satisfactory: business on the fair-grounds all over the country has been first-class, and, most gratifying of all, Press and public alike have rallied to the support of the showman.

The showman is now duly recognised as a law-abiding, hard-working, loyal citizen, who contributes not only to the gaiety of the nation, but in generous measure to the rates, and notably to the charities of all our big cities. For this satisfactory state of affairs, while recognising how largely it is due to the efforts of those who worked so nobly in the past to improve the status of the travelling showman, we must also acknowledge that the magnificent response of the sons of Showland during the war made a great impression on many who had previously ignored their existence, or, worse still, had tried to drive them out of the means of earning their living.

The past year has happily seen the revival of all the great fairs which had, perforce, been in abeyance during the later years of the war. Most of the ex-Service showmen are now back at their own business, and although 1919 probably saw more money on the fair-grounds, 1920 showed respectably filled coffers.

One outstanding feature of the past year has been the boom in circuses and carnivals. London has never had so many entertainments of this class, and reports from all speak of record business, and 1921 begins most promisingly for showmen.

The Waverley Market Carnival.

Edinburgh is flocking to its New Year Carnival, and a wonderful conglomeration of talent is delighting the young of all ages.

The Band of the Breadalbane Guards played at the opening performances of last week, and Hickey's Comedy Circus, with its performing midget ponies and the clever mule, "Obey," achieved an immense success.

Amongst the outstanding features in the Ring must be mentioned The Brastonians, in their musical novelty act; The Glenroy Troupe of Scottish Dancers; The Martinez Troupe of Equilibrists; The Colorado Cowboys; The Hedjaz-Feisul Troupe of Arabian Dancers;- Miss Cashmore's equestrian act, with its accompaniment of trained dogs and tiny accomplished monkey; Le Tumilet's roller-skating act; Paul Gordon's aerial wire-walking; and two excellent animal acts—Duncan's Royal Scotch Collies and Frederica's Comedy Terriers. With such a list of turns, there is little wonder that the Edinburgh press is unanimous in its praises of an altogether delightful show.

The Side-Shows and Novelties.

The extra shows incidental to a big carnival are specially thrilling at the Waverley. Instead of a prize-beauty, there is "The Ugliest Woman on Earth."

The Mystery Man has many clever illusion acts, notably the disappearance of a white horse to the frequent mystification of his audience.

Of course, there is the world's champion fat boy—Colosso—with 42 stones of weight in his 19 years; while his neighbour—the giant school-girl—at 18 years weighs over 30 stones.

Two remarkable freaks of Nature are the Sea-lion Man and the Bear Lady, and perhaps the "Silent Lady" should be placed in the list of novelties.

In addition to the side-shows, there is a large and varied collection of games, shooters, competitions, and stalls.

Sheffield Winter Fair.

A goodly crowd foregathered at Sheffield for the Christmas and New Year Fair, and although money is not as plentiful in the Yorkshire cutlery town as it was a year ago, business was fairly good. Amongst the machines were Marshall's Motors, Tuby's Jumpers, Farrar's Dragons and Scenic Railway, C. Burgries' Steam Swings, D. Farrar's Cake Walk, Holdsworth's Bicycles, and Johnson's Motors.

The shows and exhibitions included Mander's Menagerie, Proctor's Circus, Ralph's Freak Exhibition, Hobson's Novelties, Rayner's Working Colliery, and Harris's Herculean Show.

A large crowd of shooters, stalls, houp-las and cokers filled the usual long avenues of the fair-ground.

Two Manchester Local Fairs.

Mr. John Collins has two fair-grounds doing good Christmas and New Year business in the Manchester district. At Trafford Road the shows were Siddall's Ponies and Ainscow's Statuary and Peep-Show. The machines included the yachts, gallopers, and scenic railway of Mr. J. Collins, Siddall's Mystic Swing, Shuffle-bottom's High Overboat, and Helen's Bicycles, with an imposing array of stalls, games, and cokers. At Queen's Road, in addition to many games, shooters, &c., there were P. Collins's Motors, Kaye's Jumpers, Thwaites's Swings, and the Colliery exhibit of W. Davies, the Statuary Show of T. Wortley, and Wilson's Exhibition.

Annual Guild Meetings.

We remind our readers that the annual meetings of the Showmen's Guild are announced for Manchester, on Tuesday, the 11th, and on the following Tuesday at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, when it is hoped than even last year's magnificent record of attendance will be exceeded.

OLYMPIA CIRCUS.

A second visit to the grand circus and Christmas Fair at Olympia confirms our original opinion of its excellence and colossal proportions. The side shows are now in full swing, and are all largely patronised, especially the roundabouts, spiral staircase, and dragon-cars. Of the circus itself it can only be said that all the best turns provided at the start are retained and several new ones added. The Staigs looping the loop in the Globe of Life is so remarkably daring that it has to be seen for its possibility to be believed, and the great trapeze act by the Five Rixfords is truly marvellous. Mme. Houcke in "haute école," and Henning Orlando, the great Swedish horse trainer, still remain among the most enjoyable of the turns exhibited. Leyland's Sea Lions are clever beyond measure. The Sisters Caree as nymphs on horseback are wonders of graceful horsemanship. The Arrigonis, the Provcanis, and Frères Plattier, the French clowns, are also capital items of skill and fun.

Mr. Laurie Hunter writes: "In your notice of "Babes in the Wood" at the Coliseum Theatre, Glasgow, you refer to the song, "Don't You Think There Must be Something Really Wrong?" as being sung by Mr. Fred Barnes. This is in error, as the song (which is my own property, having been written for me by Mr. R. Guy-Reeve) is sung in the pantomime by myself."

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NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 1921.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility, with regard to any inaccuracies or changes which may be made in the calls.

BILL MATTER FOR JANUARY 31 NOW DUE.

BOSTOCK TOUR.

BLANTYRE PICTURE HOUSE (rehearsal, 5.30).—Bandmaster Morris.

HAMILTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Harry McKelvie presents "Tommy Trotter" pantomime.

IPSWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—G. Brydon Phillips presents "Cinderella" pantomime.

IPSWICH LYCEUM THEATRE.—"Midsummer Night's Dream."

NORWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Sydney Morris presents "Hullo, 1921" revue, Pathé Gazette.

NORWICH THEATRE ROYAL.—"Mr. Pym Passes By."

PAISLEY RINK PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—St. Malo and Coombs, Laird and Loydall, Teddie Gibson.

PAISLEY THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Five Jocks, Three Laurels, Jack Holden, the Anzers, Alec Main, Avis and Sans, Daunton Shaw Troupe.

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

(See Page 19.)

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES.

CAMBERWELL PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Gertie Gitana, Tom Edwards, Leo Cud's Navvies, Bert Lea, Eric Randolph, Merle's Cockatoos, Ernest Hastings, Tokio, Daisy James.

CLAPHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 12).—Hetty King, Fred Curran, Tom Edwards, Geo. Gilbey, Marvin and Rhyde, Daly and Healey, 3 Mahers, Madeline Lloys.

COLLINS'S (rehearsal, 12).—E. D. Nicholls and Co., Daly and Healey, Rosie Reyes, Larry Lewis, the Westbrooks, Thora.

CROYDON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Lew Lake's new production, including Manny and Roberts' "Dardanella."

HAMMERSMITH PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Tate, Violet Essex, O'Gorman

RAYMOND A Happy New Year.

Bros., Sam Mayo, Athas and Collins, Gus Harris, Sisters De Wynne, Eddy Gray, Sammy Shields.

HOLBORN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Jack Lane, Emilie Hayes, Joe Elvin and Co., Whit Cunliff, Mayne and Sheridan, Meteor Trio.

ILFORD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—R. A. Roberts, Daisy Jerome, Garadini, Johnson Clark, S W. Wyndham, Rosie Lloyd, Maggie Benson.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Percy Honri, O'Gorman Bros., Ernest Hastings, Ruth Astor, Togan and Geneva, McKays, Betty Rowlands.

KILBURN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Joe Collins presents "Babes in the Wood."

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Florrie Forde presents "Red Riding Hood."

PALLADIUM (rehearsal, 11).—Little Tich, Geo. Mozart, Max Darewski, Marie Lloyd, Ernie Lotinga and Co., the Faynes, the Gladiators, McRae and Laport.

POPLAR HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Joe Collins presents "Sinbad the Sailor."

PUTNEY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Pimple and Co., Jack Lane, Harry Champion, Maggie Carr, Aimee Roberts, Silver and Fox, Three Walkers, Tokio, Penrose and Whitlock.

SHOREDITCH OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 12).—Lew Lake presents "Pretty Peggy."

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Ernie Mayne, Geo. Gilbey, Harry Champion, Effie Mann, Alec Kendall, Shirley White, De Breans, Will Collinson and Co., Poluskis.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12). — Joe Collins presents "Cinderella."

MACNAGHTEN TOUR.

BLACKBURN.—The Pall Malls, Nixon Grey, Roya, Winter and Bunny, Ackroyd and Hardy, Arculus, George Latour, Fenner and Roberts.

BRADFORD. "Sweet Fanny Adams."

BURNLEY.—Mr. Arthur Rigby presents "Babes in the Wood."

CARLISLE. — Messrs. Bransgrove and Littler present "Cinderella."

HALIFAX.—Bert Hughes and Co., Elsie Gregory, Tom Taylor, Frank H. Fox, Will Bland, Archie Hill.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Messrs. Bransgrove and Littler present "Forty Thieves."

LEICESTER.—Company as booked. (Rehearsal at all halls at 12.)

SOUTHAMPTON. — Ethel Castaldini, Lomax and Cissie, Rebe Kesslova, Alpho, David and Marriott, Ten Loonies, 4 Flying Julians, Joe Shand.

WARRINGTON.—Jack Allen, Tom Rees, Jack Londres, Arturo Bernardi, De Vola and Rex, Martyn and Florence, Hanlon Bros.

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD.

BIRMINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Jock McKay, Manuel Vega, Marion

RAYMOND A Happy New Year.

Vallance, T. Elder Hearn, Frank and Vesta, The Flying Banvards, Graham and Cullen. (Matinée, Monday, at 2.30.)

BIRMINGHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 11).—Haydee's Miniature Theatre, Daphne Pollard, Leslie, Stanalli, and Edgar, Takio, Florence Yaymen, Honors and La Prince, The Three Neslos, Gordon Finlay.

BIRMINGHAM SUMMERHILL PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Whitmore and Le Garde, Ted Judge, Moscardini.

BRADFORD ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12.15).—Joseph Cheetham, May Talbot, Hanlon Charles Quartette, Margaret Cooper, Laddie Cliff and A. Illingworth present "Milady's Dressing Table."

CARDIFF EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Beswick Twins, Jack Merritt, Mme. Jeanne in "The Current of Fun," Gene Gerrard, Fred Duprez, Allan Shaw, Iizuka and Partner.

CARDIFF OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 11).—Bros. Edwardus, Nesta Verney.

EDINBURGH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Ernest Pike, Four Mackwells, Eadie and Ramsden, Wilson Hallett, Oswald Williams, Vivian Foster.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—G. H. Elliott, Sam Barton, Hanvarr Lee Trio, Osborne and Perryer, Ted Charter, Madam Dalmere's Table Circus, Golda-Penville Quartette, Frank Van Hoven.

GATESHEAD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"The Disorderly Room," Doris O'Brien, Saschoff Troupe, Nick Morton.

GLASGOW COLISEUM (rehearsal, 11).—Moss' Empires present "Babes in the Wood."

GLASGOW EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Harry Moore, Leslie Elliott, P. F. Shine, Ted Marcel, Horace Jones and Partner, Fred Kitchen, assisted by Gladys Horridge, in "Our Home," "The Monks of St. Bernard."

HANLEY GRAND THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Nevill Graham presents "Dick Whittington."

HULL PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—Messrs. Wylie-Tate present "The Follies of 1920."

LEEDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Olga Morselli, Marie Loftus, Betty Barclay and George, Glover, Mike S. Whallen, Bob Anderson, Jose de Moraes, Eileen and Marjorie, Boy Ronald.

LIVERPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—

RAYMOND A Happy New Year.

Alfred Leonard, assisted by Adeline Valery, Harry Memsley, Omega Trio, Louis Douglas and Sonny Jones, Huntley Wright, Du Calion, May Moore Duprez.

LIVERPOOL OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 1).—The Wylie-Tate pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

LONDON HIPPODROME (reheasal, 11).—Moss Empires present the Wylie-Tate production, "Aladdin."

NEWCASTLE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Moss' Empires present John Tiller's pantomime, "Jack and Jill."

NEW CROSS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Jack and Tommie, Billy Wells and Eclair Twins, Milton Hayes, Marie Dainton, Symphonia, George Morton, Beaucaire's Butlers.

NEWPORT EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1). —Nathal Trio, Wyn and Ivy, The Buchanans, Albert Whelan, Hart and O'Brian, Gwen Thomas.

NOTTINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Apollo Trio, Hinode, Maher and Langford, Mutt and Jeff, Hedges Bros. and Jacobson, Albert Vivian Peake and Co.

PRESTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11). —Messrs. Wylie-Tate present "The Passing Show of 1920."

SALFORD PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 11).—Mlle. Giordano, Florence Wray, Stagpoole and Spier, Marcus, Harry Green and Co., The Fayre Four.

SHEFFIELD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—The Wylie-Tate pantomime, "Cinderella."

SOUTHSEA KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 1.30).—Harry Day presents "Jingles."

SOUTH SHIELDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Two Rascals, Les Pissuitis, Haley's Juveniles, Renee and Godfrey, George D'Albert.

STRATFORD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Miss Florrie Forde's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," with Florrie Forde and Reg. Bolton.

SUNDERLAND EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—T. F. Convery's pantomime, "Cinderella." (Artists are requested to bring band parts for full orchestra, including horns, bassoon, harp, and second piano parts.)

SWANSEA EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2). —Lole and "Her," Harry Marlow, Jeanette and Scott, John, Harry, and Burton Lester, Tameo Kajiyama.

WEST HARTLEPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—May Henderson, Barts Trio,

RAYMOND A Happy New Year.

Lucille Benstead, Jay Whidden, Three Ernests, Billie Reeves and Co., Sisco.

AWARD CIRCUIT.

Note.—Rehearsal at all theatres at 1 p.m., with the exception of the Jubilee Hall, which is at 12 o'clock. All artists must attend.

BARNSTAPLE THEATRE ROYAL.—"Babes in the Wood" (Carlton Fredricks Co.), Jan. 10, 11, and 12.

CHEPSTOW PALACE.—Vi Platt, Billy Rhodes.

GUERNSEY ST. JULIANS.—C. A. Stephenson's "Cinderella," Jan. 11, 12, 13, and 14.

SALISBURY PALACE — De Busse, Johnny Dundee, Cissie Lupino, Oriental Trio.

WEYMOUTH JUBILEE HALL.—Beretta Trio, Jean Andrews, Harry Ray, Leah Victoria, Menard, Tom Bracewell and Lady.

YEOVIL PALACE.—Two Canadians, Sid-Arthur Duo.

STOLL TOUR.

(See Page 19.)

VARIETY THEATRES CONTROLLING CO., LTD.

BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—"A Christmas Dream."

BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Bransby Williams, Kirkby and Hudson, Roxy La Rocca, Rebla, Teddy, Laurie Devine, Russell and Forrest.

LEEDS HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"Dick Whittington."

LIVERPOOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"Flashes."

MANCHESTER PALACE.—"Jack and the Beanstalk."

NEWCASTLE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Fagan, Harry Bedford, Reynolds and Donegan, Arthur Gilroy, Noni and Partner, Lilian Barnes, Chinko and Kaufmann,

PARIS ALHAMBRA.—Period commencing Jan. 14, 1921.—Culpitt, Moriel, Mme. Sarah Bernhardt, Banando and Francis, Clarke's Cyclists, Alexandre Patti, The Redskins, Valesras Trio, Leon Rogée.

PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—"Spangles."

SHEFFIELD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"Jack and Jill."

SOUTHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.30).—Mollie Drew, Oswald

RAYMOND A Happy New Year.

Bemand, Barry Burnett, Les Pomi, Alf. Thomas, "Mumming Birds."

SOUTHEND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.30).—"Patches."

WOLVERHAMPTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—"Sons of the Sea."

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Joe Peterman presents the Big Circus.

ALDERSHOT ALFRED BURT'S MILITARY HALLS (rehearsal, 2.30). — The Albertian Repertory Company, Babs and Jeanette, Kendell and Muriel, George and Fuller, the Reads, Mena Madge, Joe E. Delaney, Lionel Brooks, Johnny McArthur, Will Friend, Rosie Potters, Glen Russell, Syd Seymour, Ernie Maybury, May Jones, Gretchen.

ASTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Tom E. Hughes, O'Brien and Lady, Rich and Galvin, Jack Tarr, Sie Tahar Troupe, May Sherrard, Grace Cunard.

AYR PAVILION THEATRE (rehearsal, 1).—The Elliott-Savonas, Matheson & Gow, Harry Marie, Ridiculous Recco, The Vital Sparks, and company as booked.

BATH PALACE.—Fyne and Hurley, Sadler Elsie Four, Ivy Hurley, Bond Rowell, the Zanettos, Pastor and Merle.

CHELTENHAM COLISEUM. — Moore and Roby, Mignon, "Takase," Hector and

RAYMOND A Happy New Year.

Lolletta, Trevor and Ware, Syd Sydney, Molly McCarthy.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Niblo and Dora, D'Arcy Woolven Trio, Manuel and Francois, Luo Joyce, Slater and Rene, Vincent Lawson.

DUNDEE KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Ike and Will Scott's "Babes in the Wood" pantomime.

EDMONTON EMPIRE.—Archie Pitts, "Mr. Tower of London."

KINGSTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Bransgrove and Slaughter present "Aladdin."

LONDON MUSIC HALL (SHOREDITCH EMPIRE).—Gee Gee Chaplin, Barney Lando and company in "The Dealer," Four Kemptons, Reg Ewen, Hengler Bros., Billy Mason, Emily Lay and Pianist, Two Cards.

LONDON VICTORIA PALACE.—Wilkie Bard, Muriel George and Ernest Butcher, Alfredo, Fulgora, Three Poppescus, Gwen and Bert Emmerson, Will Gardner, Cora Griffiths.

MANSFIELD EMPIRE.—Rufford Quartette, Mason and Bart, Signal Sextette, The Cornells, Frank Sylvo, Kettles H. Roy.

NORTHAMPTON NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Geo. Campbell's Co., "Dick Whittington Up-to-Date."

PENGE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—"Daddies."

PETERBOROUGH THEATRE ROYAL (rehearsal, 1).—"Oh, Julie."

PONTYPRIDD TOWN HALL (rehearsal, 3.30).—Lew Lake presents "Jerry, the Sailor Lad."

RAMSGATE PAVILION.—Will Style, Olive Leafe, and company as booked.

READING PALACE THEATRE.—W. S. Lyons' revue, "Non-Stop"; Dene Williams and Flora, Dirk and Anton.

RICHMOND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"The Silver King."

WALHAM GREEN GRANVILLE (rehearsal, 12).—Hiawatha and Squaw, Herbert La Martine, Barton and Ashley, Geo. Dixon, Lily Hayes, Lyn and Lynda, Ellis Barrieton, Les Eldons Trio, Pathé.

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Leicester Pavilion.

There has been a transformation in the interior of the Leicester Pavilion, which has been in the hands of workmen for a considerable time. The entrance has been entirely redecorated, re-floored, &c. New carpeting has been laid in the stalls, which are now bookable in advance, and an improvement that will be welcomed, especially in the summer time, is a new sliding roof. The whole of the auditorium has been repainted and decorated in very tasteful style.

The saloon has had special attention paid to it, and is the handsomest place of its kind in the city. New mirrors have been added, and altogether the alterations, which have been carried out under the personal supervision and direction of Mr. Joseph Lawrence, the business manager, will without doubt add to the popularity of this, the oldest music-hall in the city.

Sandy Rowan.

When touring Scotland some weeks ago, Mr. J. Davis, of the Syndicate tour, came across a new comedian, by the name of Sandy Rowan, who is described as "The Wandering Scot." Through Mike Lyon, of the U.V.A. Sandy has been booked for this circuit for many years ahead, and will make his London début at the Euston in April next.

Scott Sanders.

At Finsbury Park last week Scott Sanders was a great favourite in Florrie Forde's pantomime, in which he plays the part of Will Atkins in "Robinson Crusoe." This excellent production is at New Cross this week, and Stratford next.

Frederic Bentley.

That amusing sketch, "All Tied Up," presented by Frederic Bentley, had a most successful time at Wood Green last week and on Monday next will be seen at the London Coliseum for the third time since its production at Chiswick last August, sufficient proof of its popularity. After a brief provincial tour, Mr. Bentley will return to the West End with this sketch, to the Palladium for two weeks in February.

Adam Tomlinson.

That popular Tynesider, Adam Tomlinson, is back in town again, after his very successful season in the provinces, and commenced his five months' run in London at Shepherd's Bush on Monday, where he introduced two new numbers, and many amusing stories. He sings his first song, "I've Got a Soft Job Now," as a navvy, and in his second, a tongue-twister, entitled "Nightlights," he invites the audience to sing, the result being very amusing.

Miss Elsie Denham.

Miss Elsie Denham, the charming principal girl at the Prince's Theatre, Blackburn, is making a big hit with the Lawrence Wright number, "They'll Never Know Me In Old Dahomey," which earns her the heartiest of applause at every performance.

Noni and Horace.

At the Chiswick Empire last week, Noni, the popular Anglo-French clown, with his clever assistant, Horace, was a great favourite. Noni is at Leeds this week, and returns to town on the 24th, to play Shepherd's Bush, with the Coliseum to follow.

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THE CORPL. THOMAS FUND.

"THE ERA" APPEAL.

The New Year's Day contribution to the above fund amounts to six guineas, bringing the total up to £317 8s. 6d.

The Corporal Thomas Fund, which the late Myron Gilday started, and which his widow is continuing with the co-operation of "The Era," in memory of her husband, has aroused the sympathy of all classes of the community.

Corporal Thomas, better known professionally as Tom Fox, was a former partner of the late Mr. Gilday, who devoted a good deal of energy, during the days of his last illness, to collecting for his benefit. Mr. Thomas joined up in the early months of the war, and suffered severely, losing the left leg and an arm, and having the right leg paralysed. He is, of course, totally disabled, and is in receipt of a pension of £3 a week. Out of this he has to maintain a wife and child, and provide himself with expensive nourishment, at his own cost.

Subscription List.

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Already Acknowledged	311	2	6
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Mr. Max Darewski ..	1	1	0
Mr. C. Webster	1	1	0
Mr. F. Webster	1	1	0
	6	6	0

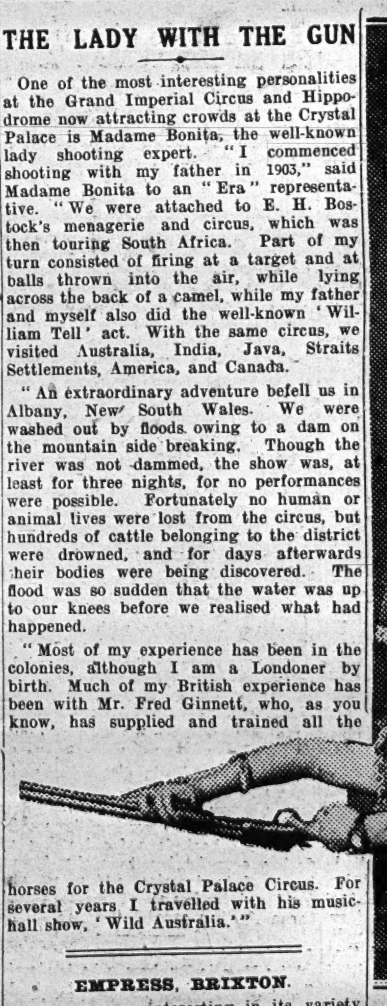
Donations should be sent either to Mrs. Gilday, 18, Cosway-mansions, N.W. 1, or to the Editor of "The Era," 35, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C. 1, by whom they will be acknowledged weekly.

THE LADY WITH THE GUN

One of the most interesting personalities at the Grand Imperial Circus and Hippodrome now attracting crowds at the Crystal Palace is Madame Bonita, the well-known lady shooting expert. "I commenced shooting with my father in 1903," said Madame Bonita to an "Era" representative. "We were attached to E. H. Bostock's menagerie and circus, which was then touring South Africa. Part of my turn consisted of firing at a target and at balls thrown into the air, while lying across the back of a camel, while my father and myself also did the well-known 'William Tell' act. With the same circus, we visited Australia, India, Java, Straits Settlements, America, and Canada.

"An extraordinary adventure befell us in Albany, New South Wales. We were washed out by floods owing to a dam on the mountain side breaking. Though the river was not dammed, the show was, at least for three nights, for no performances were possible. Fortunately no human or animal lives were lost from the circus, but hundreds of cattle belonging to the district were drowned, and for days afterwards their bodies were being discovered. The flood was so sudden that the water was up to our knees before we realised what had happened.

"Most of my experience has been in the colonies, although I am a Londoner by birth. Much of my British experience has been with Mr. Fred Ginnett, who, as you know, has supplied and trained all the



horses for the Crystal Palace Circus. For several years I travelled with his music-hall show, 'Wild Australia.'"

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

A programme interesting in its variety is presented this week at this house, which meets with the fullest possible measure of appreciation from packed audiences. Following the overture, "North and South," by Reckling, the Bros. Bright, a pair of novel comedy equilibrists, live up to their name by giving a sprightly act, and are followed by Bob Cass and Murray Christie in a humorous black and white turn, the nigger being a capital humorist. Mr. Wilfred Essex charms with his excellent baritone renderings of "Friend of Mine," "An Old-Fashioned Town," and the always popular "The Trumpeter." Mr. Harold Moss, billed as the Norfolk Gipsy Violinist, extracts the utmost possible out of that difficult instrument. This artist's execution is remarkable, and his playing is met with a very hearty reception. Mr. Moss is assisted in his turn by some delightful dances by Miss Isabel Maachah. Renee is another fair musician who pleases the audience muchly, her playing of old-time songs and choruses on the saxophone, with words thrown on the screen, inducing everyone to join in.

Miss Estelle Rose, a talented story-teller, is in fine form, and her Italian and Hebrew studies "get home" every time. Miss Gaby Revette is exhibiting some pretty tableaux, after the manner of celebrated paintings, such as "The Angelus," which are most artistic both as to colouring and posing, after which Farr and Farland, with their laughable cross-talk, quickly put themselves in great good humour with everyone present. The Four Famous Julians, in their trapeze act, "The Erratic Gymnast," literally bound into popularity at once. By request, the orchestra, under Mr. Walter Johnson's direction, played Luigini's selection, "Egyptian Ballet," charmingly during the interval.

QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

Messrs. M. and E. Abrahams are to b complimented on their excellent New Year's programme, which is full of good things That popular trio, Hedges Bros. an Jacobson, sing many lilting melodies in their inimitable style, the humour of the elder Hedges at the piano being delightful. Miss Molly Drew, a lady with a charm o manner, and, moreover, the possessor of a singularly sweet and well-trained voice, sings delightfully "The Rustle of the Autumn Leaves" and "King of Love," both pretty ballads. Described as "The Racing Knut," Mr. Harry Stiles is a comedian whose humour is of the quiet but effective description, and this is particularly noticeable during his experiments with a pack of playing cards, in which he is assisted by a member of the audience. Mr. Stiles' turn is quite good.

Lovers of music have plenty to please them, for there is Linton and Vince with a grand piano and concertina, some excellent operatic selections being played on the latter by the male partner. Rene and Renard, piano and banjos, are very good and Lovell Bros. give a musical and clever equilibristic novelty act. The Dulci Sisters are a couple of accomplished singers and dancers. Miss Winnie Barr is a bright Scotch comedienne, and Leota and Laome are two clever comedy athletes. One of the partners accomplishes some fine jumps.

Albert Whelan.

At Shepherd's Bush last week Albert Whelan intoduced a new recitation, entitled "A Love Story," which is likely to become very popular. Albert returns to town in three weeks for a long season on the L.T.V. circuit.

"THE ERA" FILM SECTION

TOPICS OF THE TRADE.

AMERICAN OVER-PRODUCTION.

PLIGHT OF FILM ACTORS.

THE startling news from California that 5,000 highly paid workers in the American film industry, the greater proportion of whom are star performers, have been discharged, in addition to another 45,000 consisting of minor players and studio employees, is not, so far as we are concerned, a great surprise. As we have already pointed out in these columns, the producing side of the American picture business has been in a bad way for some time. Over-production has long been deplored, and the result is the débâcle which has now taken place. In consequence, there are said to be something like £7,000,000 worth of new films on the hands of the producers, who cannot dispose of them, while America is flooded with pictures which are being exhibited nightly in cinemas which are not a third full. Presumably the first waves of this flood will soon reach our own shores, if, indeed, they have not already done so. We hope that British exhibitors will stand firm, and take every precaution against being overwhelmed, as so many of the American exhibitors have been.

BRITISH STARS FOR BRITISH PICTURES.

At the same time, it is only fair to state that there has been no over-production of first-class plays—at least, so far as we have seen anything of them in this country. In fact, the work of those artists who are in the very front rank has had just the reverse tendency. New Charlie Chaplin subjects, and those which feature artists of the calibre of Mary Pickford, Dorothy and Lillian Gish, Henry Walthall, and one or two others, seem to be as rare in Great Britain as fine weather, or nearly so. The over-production has been confined to second-rate subjects, in which second-rate players have been featured as stars. Many of these much "boosted" pretenders have appeared in eight or ten big pictures each during the past twelve months.

Probably many of the discharged and suspended artists will find their way to Great Britain, inspired with hopes of good employment with British producing companies. But although we believe that 1921 will be a record year for British producing, we are equally of opinion that we have enough film stars of our own—both actual and potential—to supply all demands.

ROUND ABOUT FILMLAND.

Early Releases—A Popular School Story—Film Star's Accident—Spiritualism on the Screen.

Early Releases for 1921.

The Hepworth programme for 1921 will include twelve "big" productions. They will be typical British stories, made by British producers, and interpreted by the well-known team of Hepworth British players. The first release—for Jan. 31—is "Aylwin," a picture version of the classic by Theodore Watts-Dunton, produced by Henry Edwards, who plays the rôle of Hal Aylwin, Chrissie White playing Winifred Wynne. Gwynne Herbert, Gerald Ames and Henry Vibart appear in other rôles, and a notable feature of the production is the exquisite scenery, many of the scenes having been photographed on and in the vicinity of Snowdon. The next release—for Feb. 28—is "Helen of Four Gates," a Cecil M. Hepworth production of the novel by Mrs. E. Holdsworth. The story is unfolded in the rugged, picturesque beauty of the Yorkshire Moors, and Alma Taylor, James Carew, George Dewhurst, John MacAndrews, and Gwynne Herbert are seen in the principal parts.

Tom Forman.

One of the few cinema men who have graduated from actor to scenario writer, and from scenario writer to producer, is Tom Forman of the Paramount Co. He played leading parts in "Hashimuro Togo," "For Better For Worse," "The Sea Wolf," and other well-known plays. He then wrote the scenario of "The Round Up" for Fatty Arbuckle, and played a leading part with Fatty. His first production was "The Ladder of Lies," starring Ethel Clayton. He is about to present his old friend, Thomas Meighan, in "Easy Street."

£500 Film Story.

Great interest was aroused some little time ago by the announcement that Mr. Walter West, of Broadwest films, offered £500 to anyone who could supply him with a story, or stories, suitable for filming by this well-known British firm. Despite the fact that about three thousand stories were submitted for consideration, only ten were held over from which to make the final decision. Of these the most original and cleverly constructed was "Ambition," from the pen of Mr. Andrew Soutar, who is proclaimed the winner. Of the other nine stories, several have been retained, and Mr. Walter West hopes to select at least two more for production.

Mr. West is of the opinion that although his company has to rely to some extent on published novels for film stories, the time is approaching when the original story will oust the novel from the screen. Moreover, he states that it is to Fleet-street that he is now looking for the film story writer of the future. Mr. West is always ready to consider stories, but those who intend submitting them to the Broadwest Company should obtain a list of notes from the scenario department, which advises the would-be film author what is not required by him for filming.

A Granger School Story.

"The Fifth Form at St. Dominic's," one of the most popular school stories ever written, is the title of a new Granger picture which is now in active preparation. The greatest care is being taken to choose locations in keeping with the story, and these scenes when pictured upon the screen will add greatly to the charm and beauty of the production.

News from New York.

Edmund Goulding, whose film version of "The Devil" will be shown at the Strand Theatre, New York, in January, is, we hear, now collaborating with Cosmo Hamilton on a new stage play, but that does not mean that he is deserting the movies for good. He has plans for forming a producing organisation to make films both here and in America, and so set about a regular interchange of movie talent between the two countries.

Accident to Film Star.

Miss Maudie Dunham, who is starring in Samuelson productions, was involved in a very unpleasant motor accident last week, near Fenchurch-street, when she was on her way to visit her mother in Southend. The taxi she was in attempted to achieve the impossible, failed, and a bad collision with a motor lorry was the result. Miss Dunham was thrown forward against the shattered glass window and received a nasty cut over the forehead, and has narrowly escaped losing the sight of one eye. Mr. Samuelson, who was one of the first to show solicitude, called upon her and has given her a month's holiday in which to recuperate.

Vitagraph.

Elinor Field, leading woman for Joe Ryan in the latter's new Western serial, "The Purple Riders," has returned to the California studio after three weeks' absence recovering from burns sustained in a fire scene.

The largest piece of plate glass ever made, it is said, has just been received from a Pittsburgh glass works by Vitagraph, at its West Coast studio. It is to be used in the construction of a new glass water tank for photographing under-water scenes. The glass is one and one-half inches in thickness, and was made in plates of six by ten feet.

Spiritualism on the Film.

To obtain "atmosphere" for a film they are producing, members of the Granger-Binger Film Company have become spiritualists for the time being. The film is based on Fergus Hume's novel "The Other Person," which deals with the return to earth of a murdered man's spirit in order to avenge the crime. The story includes a seance, and for the purpose of filming this correctly, the producer, B. E. Doxat-Pratt, and his assistants have attended a number of seances in London.

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WESTERN IMPORT COMEDIES.

"A SUBMARINE PIRATE."

Judging by the hearty laughter at the Trade show, the above comedy was a very welcome re-issue. There is not a dull moment from start to finish, Syd Chaplin being responsible for most of the mirth. The antics of the waiter, disguised as Napoleon and commanding a submarine, must be seen to be appreciated, and this is a film that is bound to prove popular wherever screened.

"FOUR TIMES FOILED."

The second comedy stars Snooky, an uncannily clever Chimpanzee, and will be appreciated not only by children, but by the grown-ups. In addition, there is a charming baby, and some of the most intelligent animals ever seen on stage or screen. Buster, the horse, with the aid of Juno, the dog, saves the baby from dire peril, and Snooky does his bit by typing a letter to the child's parent, warning her of its danger. An aeroplane adventure forms an admirable finale, Snooky being evidently quite at home in his "bus."

[See our Film Markings.]

* * *

"THE TEMPLE OF DAWN."

ANGLO-INDIAN STORY OF MUCH FASCINATION.

Production	Metro.
Type	Drama
Star	Bert Lytell
Length	Five Reels
Distributors	Jurys

From a technical point of view, "The Temple of Dawn" is perfect, and the story interesting and full of action. Bert Lytell heads an excellent cast, and the photography leaves nothing to be desired.

Leigh Dering, a young British officer, known as the Hero of Akbar, returns to London and marries charming Jean Dering. A life of luxury and idleness transforms Leigh into a society waster, and he quarrels ceaselessly with his father-in-law. The latter is found murdered and Leigh takes the blame, although he knows that the murder was committed by a girl—a victim of the dead man. Five years later Leigh is back in India, and Jean, now married to Willoughby, later arrives there. Willoughby having been Leigh's friend, knew that he was alive, but desiring Jean's love he had persuaded her to marry him. Finally, through the mad plot of an insane Rajah, Leigh finds that love and happiness are his again.

[See our Film Markings.]

* * *

"THE PHANTOM SHIP."

FINE FILM VERSION OF ENGROSSING NOVEL.

Production	Nordisk
Type	Drama
Star	Charles Weith
Length	Eight Reels.
Distributors	General

"The Phantom Ship" was an engrossing novel, and its film adaptation lacks nothing in the way of fascination and mystery. Produced by the Nordisk Company, the correct atmosphere has been attained, and the "big" scenes are many and varied. In the first part there are some delightful glimpses of picturesque Norway; the cliff scene, in particular, deserving mention. Some forceful acting is contributed by Charles Weith, the star, and the supporting cast is particularly strong. The story, it will be remembered, deals with the three attempts of Philip Vanderdecken to find his ill-fated father, the latter having been condemned to an endless voyage on a Phantom Ship, through dealings with the Devil. The only hope of salvation is the presentation of a piece of the Holy Cross, and Philip goes through much suffering before he finds his father, and with him enters into his last long rest. Part of the plot is devoted to Armine, Philip's wife, and shows how in desperation she resorts to Black Magic in order to learn of her husband's whereabouts, finally paying for her sin at the stake.

[See our Film Markings.]

CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITORS' ASSOCIATION.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT.

The general meeting of the Sheffield and District Branch of the C.E.A. was held at Messrs. Wiley's, Hartshead, Sheffield, when E. C. Clayton occupied the chair in the absence of W. T. Gent, the President.

Operators' Wages.

At the last meeting of the branch a letter was read from the Sheffield Branch of the E.T.U. giving notice that they proposed to ask for a review of the agreement which exists between the two associations, regulating operators' wages and hours, which expired on December 31. A further letter from Mr. Mathews, the secretary of the E.T.U., in this respect, was read by the secretary. He writes remarking that the previous letter was open to misconstruction, and asking that it should be taken as a notice from December 31. Mr. Mathews, after alluding to the excellent arrangement which existed between the two organisations, expressed the hope that the C.E.A. would arrange to go into the matter as early as possible.

The letter produced some discussion, during which many traders expressed the opinion that any further increase in wages was going to be a very serious matter. Many halls were now beginning to feel the pinch, and business generally was not nearly so good as it was at the time the agreement was made. Everyone, however, agreed that it would be better to have the position frankly and freely discussed, and it was arranged that Mr. Mathews should be notified that a deputation would be received at the next meeting of the Association.

Sunday Trade Shows.

In a letter from headquarters re Sunday trade shows, it was pointed out that Mr. Hart, owing to the conditions in the Sheffield licences, could not advise the General Council to give legal protection to any exhibitor who may be inclined to open his hall, in defiance of the Watch Committee.

E. J. Woollen said he was disinclined to accept the ruling, and felt strongly that if they allowed mandates to go forward they would lose all their right and privileges. Without acting in any spirit of defiance, he was inclined to approach the Chief Constable and tell him that he proposed to open his hall for Sunday trade shows, rigidly excluding all those who were not connected with the trade.

The Chairman said probably the Watch Committee in the event of trade shows being confined entirely to representatives of the trade would not interfere, and there was, however, another side of the question, and that was whether any exhibitor who opened his hall for that purpose would not render himself liable to prosecution. No doubt it was that phase of the question which Norman Hart had in his mind when he advised the General Council on the position.

Other members were in agreement with the Chairman, and after more discussion the matter was left with Mr. Woollen to decide what course he would adopt.

Re-assessment.

It transpired that letters had been sent to all picture theatres asking for copies of their last balance-sheets, with a view to re-assessment, and it was stated that the question was likely to become acute, for the authorities were said to be preparing to considerably increase the assessment. The Secretary said that their better course would be to wait further developments, and prepare to take united action if necessary, but after a lengthy discussion he was instructed to notify the General Council of the movement which was on foot.

"The Skin Game."

Granger's London trade show of "The Skin Game," a film version of John Galsworthy's London success, played by the original Reandean Company, is to be held on Friday at the Alhambra, at 3 p.m. sharp.

Park Cinema Shows.

Leeds Corporation Parks Committee, having considered a letter from Mr. J. Bowman as to the exhibition of daylight cinematograph pictures in parks, has adjourned the matter for further information to be obtained.

FILM MARKINGS.

For the benefit of Exhibitors in London and the Provinces who are booking their programmes solely on our markings, we are in future giving further details. We would point out that the markings allotted to films in this section are given on their relative drawing power to showmen:—

Reference No. .. .. 6—10.
Suit high-class audience.....A | Suit sensational audience C
Suit average audience .....B | Suit any audience .....D

EXCLUSIVES.

Released.	Name.	Brand.	Description.	Feet.	Marks.	Suitability.
Jan. 2, 1922 ..	The Challenge of the Law ..	Fox	Drama	5000	9	B
Feb. — ..	An Ancient Kingdom ..	Gaumont	Special Interest	1000	9	D
Feb. — ..	Celebrities of the Dance ..	Gaumont	Special Interest	1000	8¾	B D
March —..	Diamonds	Gaumont	Special Interest	1000	9¼	D
March —..	Billiard Champions.. ..	Gaumont	Special Interest	1000	9¼	D
Not known	Three Comedies	Astra-Century	Comedy	2000	8½	B
Not known	Four Times Foiled	W'strn Imp'rt	Animal Comedy	2000	9	D
Not known	The Submarine Pirate ..	W'strn Imp'rt Re.	Comedy	2000	9¼	B D
Not known	The Temple of Dawn ..	Jury's-Metro.	Drama	5000	9¼	C B
Not known	The Bump	Moss-Minerva	B. Comedy	2000	8¾	A B
Not known	Five Pound Reward.. ..	Moss-Minerva	B. Comedy	2000	7¾	B
Not known	Bookworms	Moss-Minerva	B. Comedy	2000	8¾	A B
Not known	Twice Two	Moss-Minerva	B. Comedy	2000	8½	A B
Not known	See My Lawyer	Jury's-Christy	Comedy	4500	8½	B
Not known	The Phantom Ship	General-Nordisk	Drama	9000	9¾	C A
Not known	When a Woman Strikes ..	General	W. D.	3000	8¾	B
Not known	Pin, Squeak, Wilfred ..	Astra. Speed	Comedy	500	9	D
	OPEN MARKET.					
Jan. 3 ..	Pathé Pictorial	Pathé	Interest	—	8¾	D
Jan. 5 ..	Pathé Gazette	Pathé	Interest	—	9	D

MUSICAL SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT WEEK'S RELEASES.

GUIDE TO MUSICAL DIRECTORS.

(SPECIALLY COMPILED FOR "THE ERA.")

Musical directors should not fail to secure the "Suggestions" for film accompaniments which appear week by week in "The Era." Directors who take advantage of these "Suggestions" will have five days in advance of the release in which to obtain the necessary selections. Musical suggestions, if published, should be sent on when the film is booked, but they seldom arrive before the film, if at all.

This is the secret of the musical director's trouble. He either gets none or they are too late to use for the first house. The Editor of "The Era" has therefore resolved that he will do all in his power to assist in this matter by publishing as many suggestion sheets as possible.

This week's instalment supplies the music most suitable for the following films:—

"FLAMES OF THE FLESH."

Fox Film.

Released January 10.

Change Cues.	Style.	Nature of Number.
PART I.		
Where two seas ..	Romance..	Myst. Oriental Mel.
Don't listen to this devil	,, ..	Dram. Myst. Slo. Mel.
In a pleasant village	,, ..	Bri. Flo. Mel.
So it comes about ..	Valse lente	Flo. Mel.
Some evening later ..	Valse	Quick Span.
Senorita Paoli.. ..	Intermezzo	Bri. Flor.
PART II.		
Opening	Dance ..	S. i. Span. 2/4
*When man shoots himself	Overture ..	Alleg. Agit. Dram. Ex.
Across the Atlantic ..	Romance..	Dram. Ex. Mel.
So with fear for his brother	,, ..	Ser. Flo. Mel.
I've come to take you home	,, ..	Dram. Ex. Mel.
Their father is many times	,, ..	Ser. Flo. Mel.
Bruce Eastcoat's money	,, ..	Dram. Ex. Mel.
I was very rude ..	,, ..	Ser. Flo. Mel.
PART III.		
Putting their plan into	Valse ..	Lit. Flor.
And when the time is ripe	Selection..	Dram. Ex. Mel.
Madame Binnat is to be	Romance..	Ser. 6/8 Flo.
*When old Eastcoat receives cablegram	,, ..	Ser. Flo. Mel.
Madame Binnat gives Boardman	,, ..	Ser. Dram. Mel.
When hearts are unmasked	,, ..	Dram. Slo. Mel.
PART IV.		
And while her love and	Selection..	Very Ex. Dram. Mel.
You—the man I was going to	,, ..	Very Dram. Mel.
*When Laure describes how she met old Eastcoat	Overture ..	Storm, Agit.
*When Eastcoat and Laure enter room	Romance..	Slo. Dram. Ex. Mel.
Is this true, father?..	Symphony	Very Dram. Mel.
I love you too much..	Romance..	Dram. Flo. Mel.
PART V.		
And on the morrow ..	Romance..	Slo. Ex. Dram. Mel.
The one way to do it	Valse ..	Bri. Flor.
You love the idea, Laure	Romance..	Slo. Dram. Ex. Mel.
*When Boardman leaves	Intermezzo	Bri. Flor.
*When Bruce by Laure	Overture ..	Dram. Agit. Ex.
*When guests gone ..	Romance..	Hvy. Dram. Mel.
*When Bruce takes wine to Laure	,, ..	Dram. Mel.
Kiss me, just once more	,, ..	Slo. Hvy. Dram. Mel.

* Action. Rest titles.

"THE TREE OF KNOWLEDGE."

Five Reels.

Paramount-Artcraft Film.

Released January 10.

Change Cues.	Style.	Nature of Number.	Min.
Opening	Romance..	Slo. Flo. ..	2½
To-day the daughters	Dance ..	One step Bri	3
*When musicians seen	Valse ..	Bri. Flo. Mel.	1½
*When close up of cigarette case.	Romance..	Mod. Flo. Mel.	1½
*When dancers seen	Valse ..	Bri. Flo. Mel.	1½
Hollingsworth Hall, the home	Romance..	Slo. Flo. Mel.	1½
The bitter fruit..	,, ..	Slo. Flo. Mel.	2½
At the end of ..	Intermezzo	Solid Bri.	2½
In the peace of ..	Romance..	Slo. Flo. Mel.	2½
Nigel's classmate and guest	Intermezzo	Lit. Flor.	2½
Under the soothing spell	Romance..	Slo. Flo. Mel.	2
*When Warwick joins Monica	,, ..	Slo. 6/8 Flo.	½
*When Nigel's mother seen	Intermezzo	Slo. Flo. ..	1½
*When Brian and bride enter door	Romance..	Slo. Sli. Dram	3½
Face to face with	,, ..	Slo. Dram. Mel.	2½
*When Brian on stairs	,, ..	Slo. Flo. ..	2
Had I known Brian	,, ..	Sli. Ex. Dram.	4½
For Heaven's sake let me	Agitato ..	Alleg. Ex. ..	1½
*When fade out of Brian to Roupelle	Romance..	Slo. Flo. Mel.	5½
I know what you're	Dramatic	Agit. Mod.	1
Nigel determines to save	Romance..	Slo. 6/8 Flo.	1½
*When Belle seen walking to	,, ..	Slo. Myst. Dram Mel.	3½
*When Warwick enters	Overture ..	Alleg. Agit..	2
If you had shown	,, ..	Alleg. Agit..	2½
*When Brian seen in doorway	Romance..	Very Dram. Mel.	3
*When Belle and Brian seen	,, ..	Mod. Flo. ..	3½
*When Warwick stops Roupelle	Dramatic	Alleg. Agit.	1
*When Warwick leaves Roupelle	,, ..	Slo. Hvy. ..	1
*When Monica seen	Romance..	Slo. 6/8 Flo.	1½
Where's Nigel?..	,, ..	Slo. Flo. ..	½
*When Warwick meets Monica	,, ..	Slo. 6/8 Flo..	1½

* Action. Rest titles.

"RED-HOT DOLLARS."

Five Reels.

Paramount-Artcraft Film.

Released January 13.

Change Cues.	Style.	Nature of Number.	Min.
The Garton steel mills	Romance..	Slo. 6/8 Past.	2½
A good and sufficient reason	,, ..	Slo. Flo. ..	1½
*When Ray overtakes Janet	,, ..	Slo. Flo. ..	2½
I want you to meet	Valse lente	Slo. Flo. Mel.	2½
After an hour's session	Romance..	Slo. Flo. Mel.	3½
With the passing of	,, ..	Slo. Ex. Dram.	3½
*When Ray runs and pushes Garton	Dramatic	Agit. Hvy...	2
Then the long slow	Romance..	Slo. Flo. ..	4
*When flash to Janet	Intermezzo	Mod. Solid..	2½
How would you like	Romance..	Mod. Flo. ..	1½
Theodore Burke Garton	,, ..	Slo. Flo. Mel.	1½
Reserving the news of	Intermezzo	Bri. Flo. ..	3½
Peter Garton has adopted me	Dramatic	Mod. Sli. Ex.	2
Never speak to him	Romance..	Slo. Flo. ..	½
*When Ray returns to Janet	,, ..	Slo. Flo. ..	3
The momentous occasion of	Intermezzo	Mod. Bri. Flo	4½
You clown, you're making	Romance..	Bri. Flo. ..	2½
After a month of painstaking	,, ..	Slo. Flo. ..	4½
Janet, I've been..	,, ..	Slo. Flo. ..	3½
As Janet enters upon	Valse ..	Bri. Flo. Mel.	2½
I learned a swell new	Dance ..	One step Bri. Flor.	2
*When Ray and Janet stop dancing	Romance..	Slo. Flo. ..	2½
About to sever relations	,, ..	Slo. Flo. ..	2
I'll teach ye a lesson	Overture ..	Slo. Hvy. Dram.	3
I'll teach ye to nag	Dramatic	Alleg. Agit..	1½
Janet and I have come	,, ..	Ex. Mod. ..	1
I'm going with Ted	Romance..	Slo. Flo. ..	1½

* Action. Rest titles.

FORTHCOMING TRADE SHOWS.

LONDON.

Pirate Gold (Pathé), Shaftesbury, 11, Jan. 5.
The Mystery Mind (U.K. Photos.), Shaftesbury, 11, Jan. 7.
The Skin Game (Grangers), Alhambra, 3, Jan. 7.

BIRMINGHAM.

Behold Thy Wife (F.-Lasky), Scala, 11, Jan. 5.
The Sphinx (L.I.F.T.), Scala, 11, Jan. 6
The Skin Game (Grangers), Scala, 11, Jan. 12.
The Wakefield Case (Gaumont), Futurist, 11, Jan. 12.

CARDIFF.

La Poupée (Wardour), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Jan. 5.
Lifting Shadows (Stoll), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Jan. 5.
Lifting Shadows (Stoll), Own Theatre, 11, Jan. 5.
The Man Who Made Good (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 2.30, Jan. 6.
Lifting Shadows (Stoll), Own Theatre, 11 and 3, Jan. 6.
Three Gold Coins (Fox), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Jan. 6.
The Man Who Made Good (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 2.30, Jan. 7.
The Skin Game (Grangers), Cinema Ex., 12, Jan. 11.

GLASGOW.

The Marriages of Mayfair (Jury), Own Theatre, 2.30, Jan. 5.
Water, Water Everywhere (Goldwyn), La Scala, 11, Jan. 5.
Mystic Faces (West. Imp.), New Savoy, 11, Jan. 6.
The Skin Game (Grangers), New Savoy, 11, Jan. 11.

LEEDS.

Bullet Proof (F.B.O.), Cinema Ex., 10.40, Jan. 5.
Submarine Pirate (West. Imp.), Cinema Ex., 11.40, Jan. 6.
Wood Nymph (West. Imp.), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Jan. 6.
The Little Grey Mouse (Fox), Cinema Ex., 10.40, Jan. 6.
The Wakefield Case (Gaumont), Cinema Ex., 3.30, Jan. 11.

LIVERPOOL.

The Chorus Girl's Romance (Jury), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Jan. 5.
The Branding Iron (Goldwyn), Cinema Ex., 11 and 3, Jan. 6.

MANCHESTER.

Body and Soul (Jury), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Jan. 5.
Home (F.B.O.), Futurist, 11.30, Jan. 5.
Water, Water Everywhere (Goldwyn), Own Theatre, 11 and 3, Jan. 6.
The Challenge of the Law (Fox), Deansgate P.H., 11, Jan. 6.
The Pride of the Fancy (Granger), Futurist, 11, Jan. 7.

NEWCASTLE.

The Branding Iron (Goldwyn), New Pavilion, 11, Jan. 5.
The Yellow Claw (Stoll), Grainger P., 11.15, Jan. 6.
Elmo the Fearless (F.B.O.), Stoll P.T., 11.15, Jan. 6.

NOTTINGHAM.

A City Sparrow (F.-Lasky), Long Row P.H., 11.15, Jan. 5.
The Wakefield Case (Gaumont), Scala, 11, Jan. 11.

SHEFFIELD.

Are All Men Alike? (Jury), Own Theatre, 2.30, Jan. 5.
Dray Harlan (Fox), Electra Palace, 11, Jan. 5.
His Divorced Wife (F.B.O.), Tivoli, 11, Jan. 5.
Submarine Pirate (West. Imp.), Tivoli, 11, Jan. 7.

"THE ERA" FILM SECTION.

"NEMESIS."

A TRAGEDY OF A GREAT SOCIAL PROBLEM.

Production ..... U.C.I. (Italian Film)
Type ..... Drama
Stars ..... Soava Gallone, Chas. Gualandi
Length ..... Six Parts
Distributors ..... L.I.F.T. Co., Ltd.

A powerful exposition of a great social problem, the value of wealth over domestic joys, was screened in "Nemesis" for the L.I.F.T. Co. at the Alhambra on Monday. It is the screen version of Paul Bourget's novel, and deserves highest praise for photography and wealth of beautiful settings, both indoor and natural. The story takes its name from the legend of the Greek goddess of justice, Nemesis, a statue of which has been buried by the monks. The plot deals with a beautiful young widowed duchess, Helene, who loses all her wealth if she re-marries. Despite this edict, she has married, secretly, Captain Hugo, who resents bitterly the secrecy. Helene refuses, however, to yield up her position in society, and the Captain at last leaves on his African war duties. Helene, faced with the problem of approaching motherhood, fears for the exposure of her secret, and in her horror, half maddened, goes on a long ride, and throws herself from her horse. The accident brings her safety, and on her recovery she again takes her place in society, her secret known only by the doctor who rescued her, and a dwarf to whom she has been charitable, and who worships her. On Hugo's return, he refuses to forgive her act, and the dwarf, believing that the secret will be known to the world, blows up the whole palace, the unhappy lovers being buried in the ruins. Thus Nemesis, the statue, recovered from its resting place and returned to the ill-fated palace, triumphs even in its own destruction. The acting of Soava Gallone in a most difficult parts is most artistic, and a very attractive feature of the production is its wonderful representations of Florence, the Villa d'Este, and the palace grounds of the King of Italy, in which many of the scenes are taken.

* * *

"The Croxley Master."

A screen version of Conan Doyle's boxing story, "The Croxley Master," is being produced by Percy Nash. The cast includes Dora Lennox, Joan Ritz, Jack Stanley, and Dick Webb. Mr. Nash has just completed "The Likeness of the Night," the drama made famous by the Kendalls.

Circus Clown's Resources.

The aid of the film has been invoked for many things, but never for one quite so extraordinary as in Berlin on Sunday night, when two performing bulls were disporting at the Apollo Theatre. When one of the animals broke loose and stampeded into an adjoining box a panic was averted by one of the clowns on the stage, who with clever resource informed the audience that the bull was only acting for a film!

"The Phantom Ship."

"The Phantom Ship," the Nordisk production adapted from the famous story by Captain Marryatt, shown to the trade by the General Film Renting Co. last Friday, is an engrossing and finely pictured film. The opinion was expressed by some of those present that the film, which is in nine parts, is too long; but it must be remembered that the producer has to do justice to a thousand-page novel, and if too many cuts were made the public would only get a confused version of the well-known story.

A Thrilling Serial.

The great interest which has been aroused all over the world on the subject of spiritualism and the occult has already made its influence felt in films, but a fifteen episode serial on this unique subject is certainly an innovation. "The Mystery Mind," a thrilling story, in which hypnotism plays a large part, is the latest offering of M. P. Sales Agency, Ltd., who are handling the British and Foreign rights. The story, which is shortly to be published in book form, is by Arthur B. Reeve and John W. Grey, and is said to far surpass anything these well-known writers of detective lore have previously attempted. J. Robert Pauline, the hypnotic wizard of America, who has given displays of his astounding art in nearly every country in the world, plays the lead in this thrilling serial.

A NEW SERIAL FOR THE NEW YEAR!

1921 will be a year of success for YOU if you book

THE MYSTERY MIND

A Super Serial of Stunts, Thrills and Mystery, in fifteen wonderful two-part episodes, specially written by

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HANLEY THEATRE PROSPECTS.

The directors of the Theatre Royal, Hanley, to whom has been attributed an intention to convert the house into a picture palace, have passed the following resolution:—"That the Theatre Royal, Hanley, be continued as a theatre, and that Mr. Alan Young be, and is hereby, instructed to book engagements for at least two years ahead." The following improvements are being carried out:—The whole of the ground floor fitted with tip-up chairs and carpeted; a new entrance for ground-floor seats; grand circle entirely re-seated and carpeted; second circle fitted with tip-up chairs and carpeted; upholstered seats for the balcony; new lavatory accommodation throughout; material improvement of artistes' dressing-rooms; better heating of the building.

In a statement on the directors' decision, Mr. William T. Hill (chairman) says:—"The short season during which the theatre has been run since it was taken over from the late proprietor has not met with financial success the capital interested would warrant, but we realise that the conditions prevailing in the theatre may have largely accounted for this. Having now, therefore, decided so completely to alter the conditions, all we ask in return is that the people of the Potteries' district will give us such support as will make the venture commercially successful and justify us in the continuation, even after the years specified, of the Theatre Royal as a theatre pure and simple."

The Loughborough Theatre.

The Loughborough Theatre, Leicestershire, has been taken over by the directors of the Sovereign Picture House, of Leicester, who intend to continue to run it as a dramatic house. They have now entered into possession, and have appointed as their resident, Mr. W. H. Descon.

Sunderland's Oldest Theatre.

On the last day of the old year the Theatre Royal, Sunderland, attained the age of 65 years. It was erected at the instance of the late Mr. Samuel Roxby, who was its first proprietor and manager, and a capable actor as well. The first play staged was entitled "The Muleteer of Toledo, the King, Queen and Knave." The theatre has been recently renovated at a cost of over £2,000, and its comfort and appearance have been considerably added to. It is the oldest house of entertainment in the town.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

IN MEMORIAM.

EMNEY (FRED).—In loving memory of my darling husband, Fred Emney, who fell asleep Jan. 7, 1917. Dearly loved, kindest, best of men. God rest your dear soul. Always in the thoughts of his wife, Blanche.

EMNEY (FRED). — Who left us Jan. 7, 1917. Never forgotten by his loving sister-in law, Bess. God bless him.

EMNEY (FRED).—In fond memory of dear Fred, who passed away Jan. 7, 1917. Cousin Annie. Remembrance.

THE HAYMARKET.

Opened on Dec. 29, 1720, the Haymarket Theatre reached last week its bicentenary, and this notable event offers a favourable opportunity for a brief account of its history. That painstaking compiler of the records of the London stage and its famous players, Mr. H. Barton Baker, is responsible for the statement that after Drury Lane there is not a theatre in London so rich in memories of the great actors who have strutted and fretted their hours upon the stage as "the little theatre in the Haymarket."

In 1720 John Potter, who was either a builder or a carpenter, or both, erected the theatre on the site of the old inn, and let it to a company of young amateur players. On Dec. 29 of that year a French company appeared in a play called "La Fille à la Mode, ou le Badaud de Paris." The French speculation did not prove very successful, and the house was next let for concerts, &c., till 1725, when Italian operas were performed by subscription. Four years later Henry Fielding produced here his once-famous burlesque, "The Tragedy of Tragedies or the Life and Death of Tom Thumb the Great," which kept the stage for many years. The famous novelist and dramatist became manager in 1734, opening with a company whom he styled "The Great Mogul's Company of English Comedians," and it was his satirical drama, "The Historical Register," in which the Prime Minister was ridiculed, that brought about the passing of the Act making it compulsory that every play, previous to being performed, should be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain.

On Feb. 6, 1744, Charles Macklin brought to the Haymarket a company from Drury Lane, among whom was the afterwards celebrated Samuel Foote, who made his appearance on the opening night as Othello. After the theatre had been for a brief period under the management of Theophilus Cibber, Foote started on his own account, and various entertainments were given until, in 1766, he succeeded in obtaining, through the Duke of York, a Royal licence or patent to produce plays. He carried out certain improvements, and for the first time the house became a "Theatre Royal." In 1776 Foote transferred his interest in the lease and patent to George Colman for a life annuity of £1,600, but died a few months later. Colman himself died in August, 1794, and the theatre came into the possession of his son, also named George. It was in the February of that year, on the occasion of a visit of George the Third and Queen Charlotte to the Haymarket that fifteen persons were either suffocated or trampled to death in a rush to enter the pit.

In 1806 Colman took Mr. David Morris, his brother-in-law, into partnership, and this was an unfortunate step, as it led to many disputes and much litigation, other interests in the property being involved. Eventually Morris became the sole lessee, and, in 1820, the old theatre was pulled down, and a few feet from its site a new one was erected at a cost of £18,000. It opened on July 4, 1821, with "The Rivals," and in the years which followed a succession of famous actors and actresses appeared at the new Haymarket—to mention only a few, William Farren, Liston, the elder Kean, Charles Kemble, Buckstone, the Vinings, Mme. Vestris, Mrs. Honey, Mrs. Waylett, and Ellen Tree.

Benjamin Webster, who had been a member of the company since 1829, became lessee of the theatre in 1837, and under his direction the house more than maintained its old prestige both from a dramatic and a histrionic point of view. The opening play under the new management was "Hamlet," with Macready in the title-part. The theatre was lighted with gas for the first time in April, 1843, at which date Mme. Vestris and Charles Mathews were leading members of the company. Six years later came Macready's series of farewell performances, which, interrupted at intervals, extended over a considerable period.

When Benjamin Webster took his farewell as lessee and manager of the Haymarket on March 14, 1853, he stated publicly that he began the management without the assistance of a single farthing beyond what he had saved by right economy out of a small income. His old friend and fellow-actor, J. B. Buckstone, was his successor, and on Boxing Day of 1853 was produced "The Three Bears"—the first pantomime ever seen at the Haymarket.

Edwin Booth made his first appearance in England at the Haymarket as Sir Giles Overreach in 1861, but a more notable event of this year was the production of "Our American Cousin," and the remarkable success of Edward Sothern as Lord Dundreary. The play ran 400 nights, and Buckstone, though he condemned it as rubbish, realised £30,000 clear profit by it.

The later history of the theatre needs only a very brief summary. The name of John Baldwin Buckstone disappeared from the Haymarket's playbills in 1876 to give place to that of John S. Clarke, and two years later the house, reconstructed and rendered the most luxurious theatre of the time, came under the memorable Bancroft management. At the end of five years there was another change, Messrs. Russell and Bashford becoming joint managers, but their regime was a brief one, and in the autumn of 1887 the historic playhouse passed into the hands of the late Sir Herbert Tree, whose successors were Messrs. Harrison and Cyril Maude. As is well known, the theatre is now under the sole lessee-ship of Mr. Harrison, who was the guest of the Urban Club at their monthly meeting last November, on which occasion the chairman, Mr. Sydney Pardon, gave an interesting résumé of the history of the Haymarket since its re-opening in 1821, and some interesting speeches from Mr. Harrison and others followed.

In Demand.

By the courteous arrangement of Mr. C. Haile, the managing director of the Granville, Welham Green, three of the big hits of that music hall's bill—to wit, Paul Witt and May Stevens, Pearl Mitchell and Sister, and Miss Florence Cooper—went across to the Fulham Town Hall between the "Houses" on Monday and delighted the audience at the New Year Social of the Borough of Fulham Tradesmen's Association. These clever artists came in for a tremendous reception.

"CANDLE AND CRIB."

Nativity Play, in One Act, by K. F. Purdon. Produced at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on Dec. 27, 1920.

Michael Moloney .....Peter Nolan
Mrs. Moloney .....Christine Hayden
Art Moloney .....Tony Quinn
Delia Moloney .....Gertrude Murphy

"Candle and Crib" proved a seasonable little Christmas offering, the production being followed with much sympathetic interest throughout. The first scene depicts Michael Moloney and his wife busy decorating their little farmstead kitchen in readiness to welcome the visit of their son Art and his young wife for Christmas. The second scene brings us to a room in a tenement house in Dublin, the home of Art, his wife, and their infant son. The young couple are making preparations for their journey to Art's parents. Art, however, is unable to travel on the early train with his wife and child, but arranges to follow later on in the day. The third scene returns to the parents' little farm kitchen, where final touches are being put to the Christmas Crib.

Art arrives, expecting to find his wife there before him, but owing to the non-delivery of a letter Art had sent his parents, his mother informs him that no car had been sent to meet the earlier train. It is now late, and Art is horrified at the thought of his wife and young infant wandering round the bleak countryside, when Art's father comes in from the old stable, in a state of awe, to tell of the wonderful sight to be seen there of a young woman asleep with her infant on her breast. They go down to the stable, where Art finds his wife and child safely asleep and at peace with the world. The ending is rather disappointing, the last scene, "The Stable," being merely a tableau, leaving the finish somewhat obscure. The chief charm of the production lay in the simple beauty of the dialogue.

The acting by all concerned was excellent. Peter Nolan played the part of the simple old country farmer with a rare touch of pathos. Christine Hayden as the wife acted with her usual ability a part that suited her to perfection. Tony Quinn and Gertrude Murphy portrayed their respective characters naturally.

WINDSOR NEW THEATRE ROYAL.

"Tilly of Bloomsbury," presented by Mr. J. A. E. Malone's company, is proving a great success here this week. Mr. C. Haviland-Burke contributes a brilliant bit of character acting as the docile husband, Abel Mainwaring; Mr. Edward Thane portrays the easy-going Lucien Welwyn in amusing style; as Richard Mainwaring Mr. Noel Morris gives a clever assumption; Mr. A. Edward Sproston is also deserving of high praise as Percy Welwyn; and a quaint and very natural representation of Mr. Killbottle, a sheriff's officer, comes from Mr. Arthur Lenville. Miss Doris Littell made a charming Tilly, and played the part admirably. A favourite with Windsor playgoers is Miss Grace Warner, who was warmly received for a finished performance of the aristocratic Lady Marion Mainwaring. A success is achieved by Miss Mamie Rouy, who is delightful as Amelia. Mrs. Welwyn is cleverly undertaken by Miss Marie Shiels. Sylvia is in the hands of Miss Olive Whitney, who does exceedingly well; and Miss Camilla Norrys must be commended for a capital study of Grandma Banks. Others in the cast who make the most of their chances are Mr. Alec Rivers, Mr. Edward Blythe, Mr. Harry Cornell, and Mr. George Phyll.

VARIETY ARTISTS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

George French, who is one of the Life Governors of the Institution, and an energetic supporter of the Benevolent Fund, has just handed in his collecting brick, which contained the record amount (all except 6d. being in silver), viz., £18 0s. 6d. The committee desire to most sincerely thank Mr. French for his continued valuable help and support.

Miss Marie Kendall, who always takes such a keen interest in her old friends at "Brinsworth," visited them on Christmas Day, and did not leave without giving them each a silver piece, refreshments, and cigars; also three furs for the ladies.

Ernie Lester, of Walton and Lester, has forwarded 10s. donation handed him for the Benevolent Fund by Mr. Happy Atwood, who has now retired from the profession, but still remembers his old friends. Many thanks.

Lieut.-Col. H. S. Poyntz, Commandant of the W.O. School of Education, Newmarket, is thanked for sending, per the V.A. Federation, subscription of £3 6s., collected for the Fund and organised by Jack White.

Other recent donations are hereby acknowledged with many thanks: Victor Byron, £1 1s. (per Barry Ono), and Miss Helen Brinckman, 10s. 6d. This lady2has also sent down a very useful parcel of clothing for the use of the old folks.

Geo. B. Sinclair, manager, Palace, Walthamstow, is thanked for 18s. 10d., being 5 per cent. on matinée given at that theatre on Dec. 16.

Lou Edwards.

The American comedian and eccentric dancer, Lou Edwards, who recently concluded an engagement here in "Twinkles," is now back with his charming wife, Betty Washington, in New York, where they fully intended to take a rest. Within a few days of their arrival, however, Betty was secured for the Keith Circuit, and opened at Boston, making a big hit. We hear that Lou has signed a twelvemonth's contract with Messrs. Shubert for "The Midnight Show," which is now in active rehearsal at the Century Roof, New York.

The Prince of Wales has accepted copies of Mr. George Robey's "After Dinner Stories," and his humorous novel, "My Rest Cure," both of which are published by Mr. Grant Richards.

Hengler's, Glasgow.

This is the holiday week in Scotland for everybody but the performer, and Hengler's Circus Company and staff will give a sigh of relief when Sunday comes round. Four shows on two days, three shows on the next two, and two on the remaining two, make eighteen in all, and still a clamorous public besiege the doors from early morn till dewy eve.

COLISEUM MATINEE.

IN AID OF THE NATIONAL HOSPITAL FOR THE PARALYSED AND EPILEPTIC.

Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, was at home on Monday to a large party of ladies at the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, Queen-square. The National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, which is the largest and oldest of its kind for the treatment of the many diseases of the nervous system, has recently been on the verge of closing, but for the kindness of some friends it has been made possible to continue for the present the whole of the work with no diminution. The average weekly cost per occupied bed has gone up in that time from £1 14s. 8d. to £3 3s. 11d. The hospital's work covers a very wide area, and in addition to the chief hospital in Queen-square, it has a country branch at East Finchley for men, women, and children in a more convalescent stage; Bray Court, Maidenhead, for discharged sailors and soldiers suffering from shell shock and neurasthenia; Lonsdale House, Clapham Park, also for discharged Service men. These two latter homes are in connection with the Ministry of Pensions. There is also a Pension Fund for the Incurable and Schools of Massage and Electrical Treatment at 29 and 30, Queen-square, W.C. (in connection with University College Hospital).

Mr. Arthur Croxton (on behalf of Sir Oswald Stoll) stated that Sir Oswald had placed the Coliseum at the disposal of the hospital for the purpose of a great matinée on Tuesday, Feb. 22. Mr. Croxton said that this suggestion of Sir Oswald's was a very slight recognition of the ungrudging and voluntary work which had been given by Dr. T. Grainger Stewart, M.D., F.R.C.P.Lond., of the medical staff of the hospital, in visiting and prescribing for the disabled sailors and soldiers who, through the institution of the War Seal Foundation by Sir Oswald Stoll, are living in comfort and peace at Fulham. Dr. Grainger Stewart has made many sacrifices for the War Seal Foundation, and as he would accept no recognition for his services, Sir Oswald's only way of showing his thanks was that of placing the Coliseum at the disposal of the hospital with which Dr. Grainger Stewart was connected.

Already many interesting theatrical and musical novelties have been arranged. Among the items which will be given is a revival, for this day only (by permission of Sir James Barrie, Bart.), of "Pantaloon," with Mme. Karsavina as Columbine and Mr. Albert Chevalier as Pantaloon and an all-star cast. Mr. Charles Hawtrey will be seen in a new sketch; Mr. Mark Hambourg will appear, and another attraction will be "The Medical Rag," in six operations, by the Inter-Allied Forces of the Medical Students of the following hospitals: St. Bartholomew's London, Guy's, and St. Thomas's.

OLD FOLKS' DINNER AT "BRINSWORTH."

Mr. Charles Coborn, who presided over the 13th annual dinner and concert given by the Benevolent Fund to the old pensioners and inmates at the Institution at Twickenham on New Year's Day, made an admirable Chairman. A party of forty left Waterloo by the 11.26, and on arrival at "Brinsworth," after an hour's chat, dinner, consisting of soup, turkey and ham, plum pudding, and mince pies, etc., was served, several of the Committee and friends kindly assisting in the waiting. At the close the Chairman read telegrams from Mr. Joe Elvin, the founder of the Institution, regretting his absence through illness, and sending his best wishes to all, and from Father Cogan, stating that he was prevented from coming down. He also read a list of the donors of gifts and moneys received.

A most enjoyable concert followed. After an overture of popular airs by Mr. Harry Sutch, the following contributed to the programme:—Amy Forrest, Mrs. Harry Wright (Nellie Gannon), Ralph Edgar, Hasberrie, Harry Paulo, Richards McKay, Mrs. F. Tapply, Chas. Coborn, Mary Ann Clarke, Will Ward, Mrs. Dunn, The Tysons, Mrs. J. W. Cragg, Mrs. Pat Carey, Frank Seddon, and Mrs. Korrie (May Chester). Mr. Harry Sutch, in addition to efficiently acting as accompanist, also presented, in conjunction with Miss Clarice Barclay, his new sketch, "Music-all-Mania," introducing solos, duets, and patter.

During the afternoon Mr. Coborn proposed "Success to Brinsworth," a toast which was drunk with enthusiasm. Mr. Cecil Morley gave "The Visitors," coupled with the names of Miss Lottie Albert, the newly-elected Lady Governor of the Institution, and Mr. W. E. Dunkley, both of whom humorously replied. Mr. Monte Bayly proposed the health of Mr. and Mrs. Thornton in terms of eulogy, to which Mr. Thornton briefly responded, stating that he regretted the Matron was indisposed that day, and could not be present. Mr. J. W. Cragg, Hon. Trustee, proposed the health of the Chairman, which was toasted with musical honours, and Mr. Coborn sang his reply with a couple of his latest songs, "Monte Carlo" and "Two Lovely Black Eyes." The singing of "Auld Lang Syne" brought to a close what was unanimously voted to be one of the happiest of the series of these annual little parties.

The visitors present included Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Cragg, Monte Bayly, Cecil Morley, Alf Herald, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Adkin, representing the Committee; Miss Lottie Albert, and Mrs. Lawrence, representing the Music Hall Ladies' Guild; Rev. F. and Mrs. Tapply (Hon. Chaplain of the Institution), Rev. and Mrs. George Bastow, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Dunkley, G. A. W. Hepburn, A. Floyd, and C. Douglas Stuart, Secretary.

During the afternoon a telegram was dispatched to Mr. George Graves, Past President, wishing him, from all the old artists residing at "Brinsworth," many happy returns of his birthday, that day. Wires of thanks for past support and good wishes for the New Year were also sent to James W. Tate, the President; Joe Elvin, the Founder; Sir Walter de Frece, M.P.; Sir Oswald Stoll, and Mr. R. H. Gillespie.

Mrs. Frank Worthington has obtained the use of Wyndham's Theatre for a matinée performance of "The Interrupted Honeymoon," by F. Kinsey Peile, to be given under Royal patronage on Tuesday, Jan. 18, at 2.30, in aid of Princess Christian's Farm Colony and the Women's Auxiliary of the Y.M.C.A. The play will be produced by Mr. Stanley Drewitt.

NEW COMPANIES REGISTERED

ALBANY WARD THEATRES, LTD.—Registered Dec. 28. To acquire the circuit of theatres carried on by Albany Ward, in the South of England, and carry on the business of cinematograph or other theatre proprietors. Capital: £300,000, in 250,000 ordinary shares of £1 each, and 1,000,000 deferred shares of 1s. each. Subscribers: F. E. Adams, 199, Piccadilly, W.; R. D. Scott, 7, Douglas-road, Canonbury, N., and five others.

M. W. T., LTD.—Registered Dec. 23; The Colosseum, Saltley, Birmingham. To carry on the business of cinematograph entertainments. Capital: £21,000, in 21,000 shares of £1 each. Directors: G. F. McDonald, "Melrose," Grove-lane, Handsworth, Birmingham; G. H. Tyler, 43, Cannon-street, Birmingham; L. Wheatcroft, 43, Cannon-street, Birmingham.

VICTORIA PALACE (GIRLINGTON), LTD.—Registered Dec. 23; Victoria Palace, Thornton-road, Bradford. To acquire and carry on the business of proprietors of theatres, palaces and halls. Capital: £10,000 in 10,000 ordinary shares of £1 each. Directors: W. Naylor, J. Whiteside, J. Atkin, W. H. Horsfall, F. Wood, C. Payne, E. Firth, A. Wilson.

THE LATE ALICE MAZZONI.

In our last issue we recorded the death of Miss Alice Mazzoni, the wife of Mr. John Burton, a well-known provincial actor. She was born at Newport, Mon., her father being an Italian officer in the mercantile marine, her mother an English lady. While still in her "teens" Miss Mazzoni entered the profession at the Old Theatre Royal, Bristol, under the late Andrew Melville. Trained as a dancer by Miss Kate Mandlebert of that city, she played in various pantomimes—but rather missed her true vocation by preferring drama. She toured for some time as Nana, "A Noble Brother," and Bess, in "The Lights o' London," with Messrs. J. De Rees and H. C. Arnold. Also as Ismailia, in J. F. Preston's "Secrets of the Harem." Many other similar engagements followed; for instance, Mildred Parkes in Mark Milford's "Flying from Justice"; the lead in "Woman Against Woman," with T. B. Appleby; Geraldine, in the "Green Bushes," etc.

A month ago Mr. Burton returned home to find her seriously indisposed; a complication of anæmia, congestion of the lungs, and kidney trouble, followed by acute blood poisoning, the latter being the immediate cause of her death. She passed away at 5.15 Sunday evening, Dec. 26, after many days and nights of intense agony. She was interred on Saturday last at Tooting Cemetery.

THE LATE CHARLES CHANDLER.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Dear Sir,—May I, through your columns, appeal to all friends of the late Charles Chandler for aid on behalf of his widow, who is left penniless. Mr. Chandler lost all his hard-earned savings through an illness extending over eighteen months, and which eventually culminated in his death in the Queen's Hospital, Birmingham. During the short six weeks he was engaged at the Birmingham Repertory Theatre the management and company have stood loyally by him, and more than once helped him over difficult times. We should be very grateful for any donations, however small, which should be sent to me at the address given below. I want to get sufficient to pay his funeral expenses, and hand the balance to his wife.—Yours truly,

GERALD SAFFERY.
Stage Manager.
Station Street, Birmingham.
Dec. 28, 1920.

MR. JACK BOSTOCK'S FUNERAL.

The remains of the late Mr. Jack Bostock, the youngest son of Mr. E. H. Bostock, the proprietor of the Ipswich Hippodrome and the Lyceum Theatre, were laid to rest in the Ipswich Cemetery on Christmas morning.

The principal mourners were Mr. E. H. Bostock, Mr. "Gus" Bostock, Miss Hilda Bostock, Miss Elizabeth Bostock, Mr. H. Birkett, Mr. and Mrs. F. Fitt, Mrs. Gordon Bostock, Mr. R. H. Hendry, Mr. John Kellop (menagerie), Mr. Martin (solicitor), Mr. Garrard (printer), Mr. H. Binks, and the staffs of the Ipswich Hippodrome and Lyceum Theatre.

Amongst those who sent wreaths were Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bostock, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Bostock, Mr. "Gus" Bostock, the Misses Hilda and Elizabeth Bostock, Mr. and Mrs. Hendry, the staff of the Ipswich Hippodrome; the band and staff of Bostock and Wombwell's Menagerie; staff of the Paisley Theatre; Messrs. Sam and James Young, Paisley; Mr. and Mrs. Clayton, Hamilton Hippodrome; staff of the Hippodrome, Hamilton; staff of the Rink Picture House, Paisley; staff of the Picture House, Blantyre; Mr. and Mrs. Fitt, Hippodrome, Norwich; Mr. and Mrs. Wombwell (menagerie); staff of the Norwich Hippodrome; Mr. Frank Bostock and family (London); Mr. and Mrs. Williams (Royal Victory Circus); Mr. W. C. Burns (menagerie); Commissioners of the Fun Fair, Birmingham; Mrs. Gordon Bostock; Mr. and Mrs. "Pat" Collins; and the staff of the Ipswich Lyceum.

The funeral service was conducted at the Ipswich Cemetery by the Rev. Canon Green, and the coffin, which was of polished oak, with brass fittings, bore the inscription, "John Reginald Wombwell Bostock, died Dec. 21, 1920, aged 31 years."

Victoria Palace.

The report of the directors, to be presented at the tenth ordinary general meeting of the company, to be held at the Victoria Palace on Tuesday next, states that the profit for the year amounted to £49,509 5s. 3d., and after deducting fixed charges, &c., there remains a net profit of £44,703 7s. After adding balance from last account, and deducting excess profits duty, corporation tax, and income tax, there remained an available balance of £45,926 17s. 6d. The directors propose to pay a dividend of 25 per cent. for the year (less income tax), which will absorb the sum of £30,000, and transfer £5,000 to reserve account, leaving £10,926 17s. 6d. to be carried forward to the next account.

The Hampstead Play and Pageant Union will present "Sanfairefann," a "Christmas folly," at the Institute, Central-square, on Friday next at 8 o'clock.

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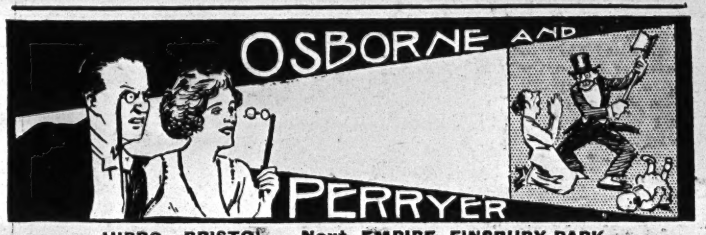

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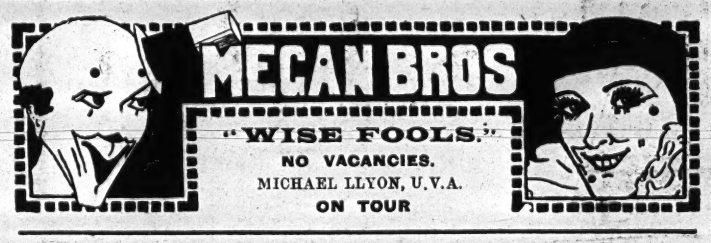

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Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Karsavina, Winston's Water Lions, Two Bobs, Frederic Bentley and Co., "Dream Stars," Cecilia Loftus, Frank Whitman, Cornalla and Eddie, Page's Dolls.

STOLL PICTURE THEATRE, KINGSWAY. (London Opera House.)

Pictures and Varieties.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Ching Wu, Frank Elliston, Stavordale Quintette, Southwood, Adam Tomlinson, Chris Richards.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Torino, Jack Delino, Megan Bros., Leslie Strange, Dormondes, Val Vett, Dollie and Billie.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMP.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Company as Booked.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Pierce and Roslyn, Krakes, Ina Hill, Fred Stafford, Charles Rich, Berkeley and Turner, "No Man's Land."

THE LEICESTER PALACE.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Witt and Stevens, Fred Russell, Ethel Toms, Gilbert and French, Stellios. Alice Craven.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Donaldson Weedon and Co., Mountfords, Hilda Nelson Trio, Harry Herbert, Olive Dene, Armstrong and Howarth.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Gresham Singers, Dorothy McBlain, Finlay Dunn, Dorane and Wood, David Poole, Bromley Carter.

MANCHESTER HIPPO.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Ted McLeod, Les Tumilets, Wilf Burnand, Julot and Piero, Gaston Palmer.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Lake and Barrasford, Paul Gordon, Peggy O'Hara, George Calver, Walker's Juveniles, Frank Maura.

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NOTE.—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for displa in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at the end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

14 BAND PARTS REQUIRED for all Theatres except The London Coliseum which requires at least 20, including 4 first Violin Parts, 2 second Violin Parts, separate 'Cello and Bass Parts, full Wood, Wind and Brass, Conductor. (Harp and Organ if required).

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Sir Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the orders, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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Farr and Farland. Empire Operatic Quartette. Gaby Revette. Wilfred Essex. Neil Melvin. Frank Keith. The Five Bombays. Bioscope.

CHELSEA PALACE.

Rehearsal at 12.
R. C. Jenkins to present Pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

EUSTON.

Rehearsal at 12.
T. E. Dunville. The Three Vincents. The Jackowlews. Tom Leamore. W. T. Ellwanger and Mary Livingstone Davson and Pop. De Haviland and Dressler. Bioscope.

WATFORD PALACE.

Rehearsal at 1.
George Wayne's Pantomime, "Babes in the Wood."

SOUTH LONDON.

Rehearsal at 12.
Six Brothers Luck. The Piccadillians. The Three Jees. Arthur Pond. Lily Denville. Lewis's Marionettes. Cass and Christie. Bioscope.

EAST HAM.

Rehearsal at 12.
George Wayne's Pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk."

TOTTENHAM.

Rehearsal at 12.
Joe Collins to present Pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor."

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

Rehearsal at 12.
T. E. Dunville. Chas. Windermere and Co. Tom Costello. Ian McCarthy. Mary Anderson. Haydon and Nevard. Bioscope, etc.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

Rehearsal at 1.
Adolph Neiman to present Pantomime, "Aladdin."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artists without prejudice.

Bill matter to be sent direct to the Manager of each hall three weeks prior to the date of opening.

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